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THE SPECTATOR

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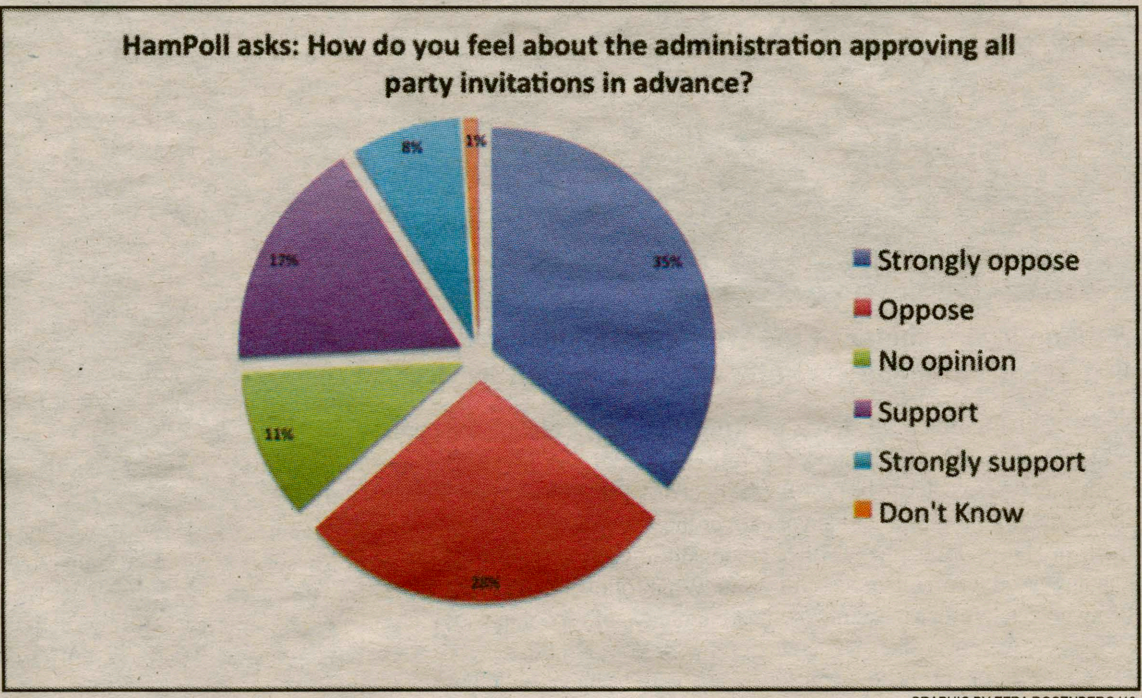
HamPoll Survey Highlights Differences on Issues

Students Support Statement of Community Values, Oppose Diversity Intensive Requirement

by Kye Lippold '10, David Foster '10, and Bret Turner '13
HamPoll Members

A survey conducted last week by HamPoll, a student group that queries the student body on important topics, found that most respondents were not offended by the recent contentious party invitations on campus. However, students expressed considerable concern about the latest incident of campus vandalism and supported a Statement of Community Values.

Overall, survey respondents were not offended by the recent "Golf Pros and Tennis Hos" party invitation or last semester's "Mexican Night" party invitation, which aroused student protests. For both invitations, 18 percent of respondents indicated that they were offended, while over 65 percent were *not* offended (full results are available on HamPoll's blog, http://hampoll.blogspot.com).



GRAPHIC BY EZRA ROSENBERG '10

Out of 584 respondents, 25 percent supported the idea of an administration approval requirment for all party invitations. For more details, see inside on page 2.

In line with these results, about 58 percent of respondents thought that the student body overreacted to the invitations. Views of the administration's response were split between over-reaction (36 percent and 40 percent for "Golf Pros" and "Mexican Night" respectively) and "about right" (28 percent and 42 percent). Fewer than 10 percent of respondents viewed reactions to either party theme as an under-reaction.

A closer analysis revealed different reactions among several demographic categories, with similar overall results for "Golf Pros" and "Mexican Night." Sixteen percent of students who identified only as Caucasian were offended by the invitations, but over 26 percent of students from other or multiple ethnic groups were offended. Men and women were somewhat divided, with women more likely (21 percent) to view the invitations as offensive relative to men (13 percent).

Students receiving financial aid were more likely to be offended (25 percent) than students without aid (about 10 percent); this result held after controlling for race, sex, and other variables.

Responses to the incident in which a car was vandalized with a homophobic slur were uniformly disapproving. Seventy-five percent of students were offended by the incident, while only 15 percent were not offended.

Differences among demographic groups were more muted on this question. Fifty percent of respondents thought that the reaction of the student body to

see *Survey*, page 2

College Prepares for Worst After First Swine Flu Scare

by Eloise Walter '11
News Writer

Hamilton is prepared to meet the wave of swine flu hitting the U.S. this fall. The College anticipates hundreds of students to report flu-like symptoms. However, a test is required to determine whether or not these students have swine flu, also known as the H1N1 virus.

The College has already quarantined and released one student whose flu-like symptoms tested negative for swine flu. While Hamilton has yet to have a single case of swine flu, colleges across the country have reported over 2,000 cases.

"It is highly likely that we will see H1N1 flu cases at Hamilton this fall," said Meredith Bonham, co-chair of Hamilton's Emergency Response Team (HERT).

In the case of an outbreak, the College will recommend sick students who live within reasonable distance to return home until their symptoms resolve. The College will also recommend that students living in singles rooms isolate themselves.

If these options are unavailable, HERT has located and prepared isolation areas to prevent the spread of the flu.

According to Christine Merritt, director of student health services, in the event of a widespread outbreak of over several hundred cases, the College would run out of these isolation areas. If this were the case, sick students would be advised to remain in their rooms, receive meals from Bon Appétit and not attend class or social events. Most importantly, sick students would be encouraged to "practice social distancing" and stay six feet away from other classmates.

The Health Center is cutting back on routine visits to prioritize students with flu-like symptoms. Last Wednesday, an unprecedented 200 students attended the first flu shot clinic. The Health Center attributes the high number to the swine flu buzz and had to turn away approximately thirty students.

The College will hold another clinic in early October once the Health Center receives more vaccines. Although this vaccine does not prevent swine flu, it boosts the immune system and prevents flu-like symptoms.

While the prospect of an outbreak is frightening, the actual chances of dying of swine flu are very slim. Merritt believes that the media has blown the news out of proportion. "People have always died of the seasonal influenza," she said. "[Those with H1N1] are probably going to be sick a week and just let it run its course." Merritt also points out that H1N1 is "not worse than any flu we've ever seen, just more widespread and coming earlier in the season."

Universities like Cornell and Emory are already diagnosing students with flu-like symptoms. At Cornell, which has 20,000 students, one off-campus student has died of swine flu while over 500 students have flu-like symptoms. Emory University has an isolation dorm dubbed "Club Swine" or "The Leper Colony," where students with flu symptoms receive free meals and skip class. Hamilton is hoping to avoid such circumstances, and the College encourages students to continue taking the recommended precautions.

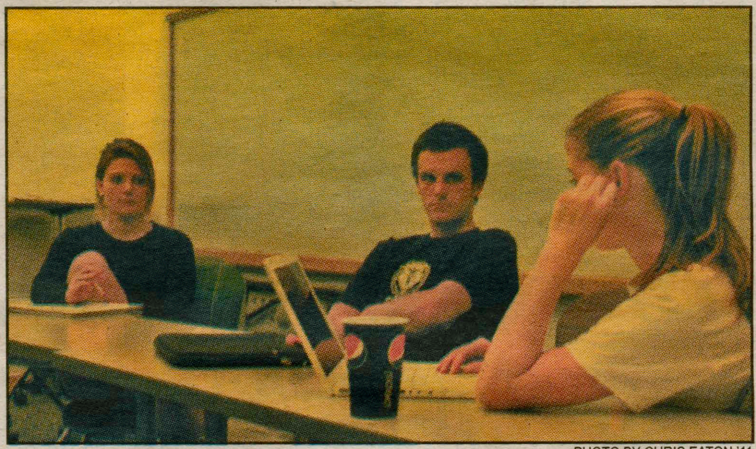


PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

News writer Michelle Franco '11 (left), listens in on the discussion between Hal Lee '11 and Amy Goldstein '11.

Assembly Discusses Community Values

by Michelle Franco'11
News Writer

Incoming first-years may soon end up pledging more than their honor to Hamilton College. As freshman, every member of the student body signed an honor pledge affirming that they will abstain from dishonesty in their academic work during their academic career at Hamilton. This sets in place a set of academic standards that all students have promised to uphold.

By that same token, in light of recent events on campus which have offended many members of the college community, Student Assembly is currently in the process of forming a "Statement of Community Values," which will affirm that students agree to be members of an open, respectful and diverse community.

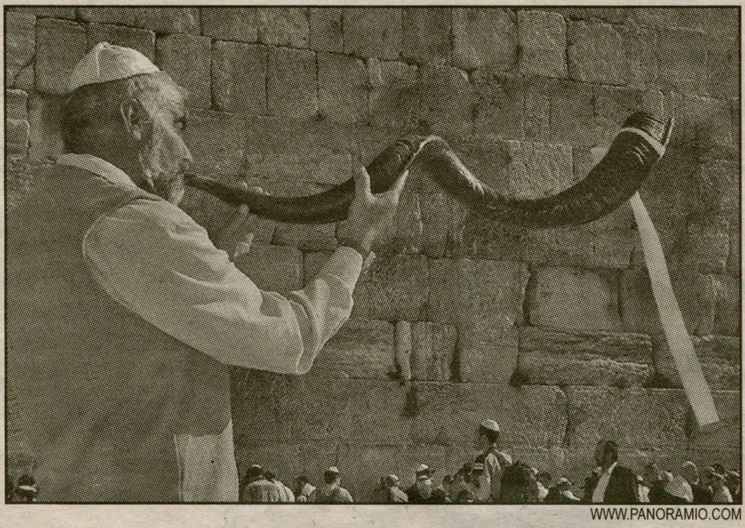
The discussion on a community values statement originated following the outrage caused by an invitation that many students found offensive last spring. "We had one meeting last semester and another one so far this semester," said Student Assembly President Amy Goldstein '11. "The goal was to have a talk about how realistic it

see *Few Attend*, page 3

College Celebrates Jewish New Year Rosh Hashanah

by Kari Arneson '10
News Writer

"Happy New Year!" read a recent e-mail from College Chaplain Jeff McArn. For hundreds of people at Hamilton, the new year had just begun. Rosh Hashanah, the first of the Jewish High Holidays, began last Friday at sundown. Rosh Hashanah, which literally means "head of the year" or "first of the year," takes place on the first and second days of Tishri, the seventh month of the Hebrew calendar.



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A man blows a shofar at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. It is traditionally used for Rosh Hashanah services

While students had class during the holiday, the Jewish organization Hillel celebrated Rosh Hashanah with services. This year, there was a service at sundown on Friday, when Rosh Hashanah began, and services on Saturday and Monday.

In addition, the traditional readings and prayers during the Rosh Hashanah services, one can also hear the blowing of the shofar, a ram's horn. One of the most important observances of the holiday is hearing the sounding of the shofar in the synagogue, which symbolically opens the skies so God can hear the requests for forgiveness.

Throughout the year, Hillel provides meals, entertainment and events for the Jewish students on campus. Current programs include community outreach, Shabbat dinners and services during the High Holidays, like Rosh Hashanah.

In 2005, Hamilton was designated as a Soref campus, one with less than 250 Jewish students. Four years ago, Hillel's nationwide organization initiated the Soref Advancement Initiative, a program aimed at strengthening Jewish programming on Soref campuses. Hamilton was selected to be part of the year-long program, and since then, the Hamilton chapter of Hillel has increased its membership and been more active than in years past.

There were also other events at Hamilton for people who weren't familiar with Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. On Saturday afternoon in the Bristol Campus Center, Rabbi Joshua Stanton of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, and the Jewish Chaplain at Hamilton, Anat Guez, led a conversation about the meaning of the High Holidays, which are some of the most important days in the Jewish tradition. Rabbi Stanton also led some of the Rosh Hashanah services this past weekend at Hamilton.

The Jewish New Year is a time to begin introspection, repentance and, like the American New Year, a time to make resolutions on how to live a better life. It is a time to reflect on your choices and actions over the past year, and on your responsibilities to yourself and others. What follows Rosh Hashanah are ten days of repentance, which end with Yom Kippur.

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur aren't all serious, though. Food is an important part of the High Holidays. Typical foods include apples dipped in honey, which symbolize a sweet new year, and pomegranates, which are full of seeds and represent abundance and wealth. The common greeting during Rosh Hashanah is, "L'shanah tovah," which means "for a good year." In addition, during this period of introspection, no work is permitted.

The High Holidays will end on Yom Kippur this Sunday, Sept. 27 with services and a breaking of the fast.

SA Update

How to Hold Representatives Accountable

by Eve Denton '12
Student Assembly Correspondent

At last week's Student Assembly meeting, a non-member student presented his idea that assembly members' names should be included in the weekly "Minutes" that are e-mailed to the Hamilton student body. He believes that simply using the format of "a member stated" does not hold those on Student Assembly accountable for what they say in meetings. He also believes that student votes in future elections could be swayed by knowing who among their representatives said what. The assembly agreed that this was an interesting idea to consider, and at the Sept. 21 meeting, the floor was opened for people to voice their opinions.

Many members seemed to feel that the addition of names to the Minutes would be a cumbersome task that would lead to inefficiency and already long meeting times would be greatly extended. One member voiced his view that "Minutes are already more detailed than a typical board meeting... Given the pace of meetings, it would be impossible to get the details of every speech."

Another common belief among members is that comments are sometimes taken out of context or are not as thoroughly explained in the minutes as they are in the meeting. Several members stated that they occasionally play devil's advocate in discussions or voice viewpoints held by those who they represent, and it would be difficult to distinguish these comments from those that represent the actual views of a member.

The student who originally raised this issue also spoke at the meeting. He suggested that holding members accountable for the viewpoints they state in meetings will allow for a more impartial picture than the platforms individual members craft and submit in each election. He also mentioned his belief that Student Assembly should recognize that names attached to opinions are an inherent part of being elected.

Although many members expressed dissatisfaction with the idea of including names, most agreed that it would be helpful to find ways to hold Student Assembly members more accountable for their viewpoints. Several members reiterated that the student body is welcome to attend any meeting, and it was suggested that a Student Assembly agenda could be sent to the campus in advance of the meeting, allowing people in the Hamilton community to attend meetings that will discuss items of personal interest. Sending out the agendas early would also enable students to approach their representatives and offer input before the meeting.

A second idea that was raised to help accountability issues is to track how members vote and publish it on the Student Assembly website, similar to the voting record one could find for other elected officials.

Next week Student Assembly plans to continue their debate and reach a resolution that will hopefully create some compromise over this issue.

Survey Suggests Most Students Not Offended by Party Invites

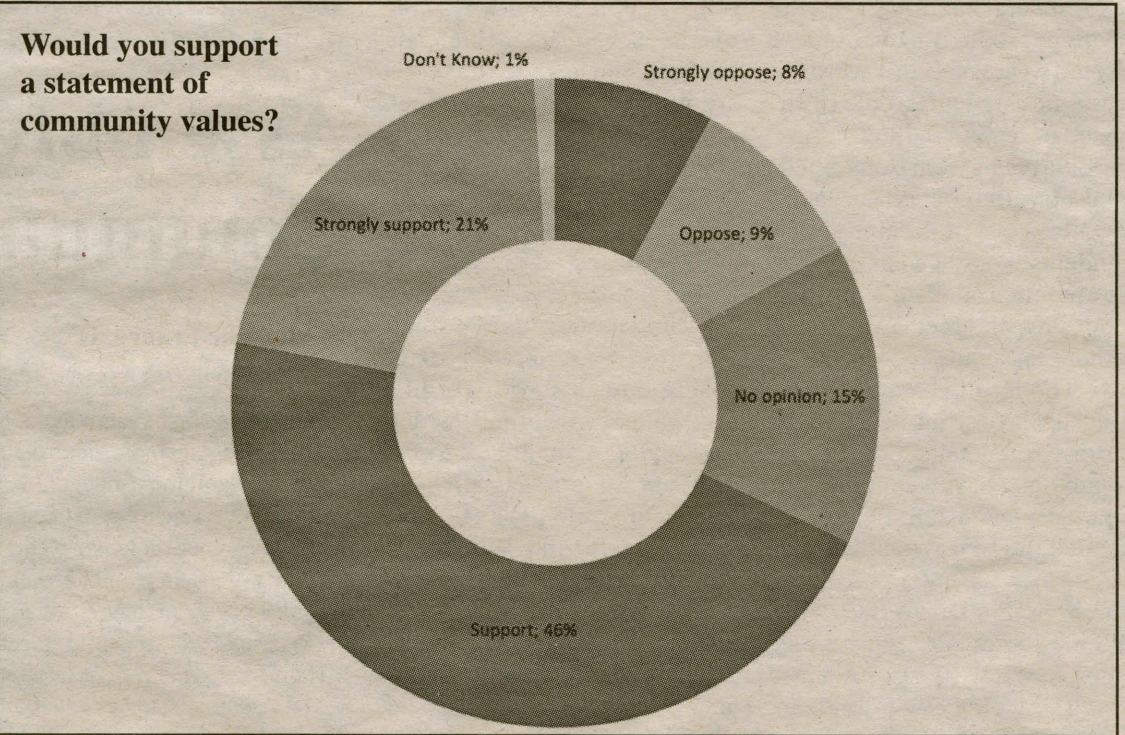
*from **HamPoll**, page 1*

the vandalism was about right. Fifty-nine percent of respondents thought that the administration's reaction to the incident was about right, while 33 percent and 24 percent viewed the response as an under-reaction by the students and administration, respectively.

Finally, the survey measured student support for several community proposals. Over 60 percent of students were opposed to requiring party invitations to be approved by an administrator and to a Diversity Intensive requirement (described as similar to a Writing Intensive requirement but applied to courses related to diversity).

Conversely, 67 percent of students supported a plan to "distribute a Statement of Community Values to incoming freshmen which would articulate shared values for behavior at Hamilton."

Support was mixed for a Social Honor Code (described as "a binding statement which would require students to confront one another by initiating respectful dialogue about offensive acts, or face judicial consequences") and a Cultural Education Center. Forty percent of respondents supported the Social Honor Code, with 45 percent opposed, and 42 percent supported a Cultural Education Center, with 30 percent opposed and 26 percent having no opinion.



Respondents also supported (55 percent) increasing the number of cameras in parking lots, with 21 percent supporting cameras specifically to prevent hate crimes.

The survey was open to the entire student body and received 584 responses. Because the sample was self-selected, results may differ from the overall population; however, demographics were comparable.

Overall, Hamilton students who responded to the survey thought the response to party invitations was overblown, but the differences in opinion over this topic provide an insightful look at the factors influencing attitudes at Hamilton.

HamPoll welcomes feedback. Send your thoughts to hampoll@hamilton.edu and join the group on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. in KJ 103.

Limited Space Constrains Cultural Education Center

by Daniel Steinman '12
News Writer

"Where is the CEC?" was the question school administrators were supposed to answer at a campus forum in the Red Pit of the Kirner-Johnson building this past Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 22. Currently, the answer is nowhere. As of now, no space has been put aside to house Hamilton's Cultural Education Center (CEC). The forum was open to all faculty members and students to discuss an ideal location for the CEC and where it could be established in the interim before the renovations on Emerson Hall (ELS) are finished in Summer 2010, at which point, more space will be available.

Some students, as well as at least one faculty member, questioned why the option proposed by last year's appointed task force had been dropped from discussions. That task force suggested creating the CEC as an addition to the Afro-Latin Cultural Center (ALCC) building.

Dean of Faculty Joe Urgo, who was in attendance at the forum, responded that plans for renovating ELS were uncertain throughout last semester. "The physical space landscape has changed dramatically in the last six months," Urgo said. Given that a new array of options will be available by next year, Urgo said conversations needed to "move past that task force report at this point." He also told the forum that the cost of such an addition to the ALCC building was estimated to be over half a million dollars.

Senior Associate Vice President for Faculties and Planning Steve Bellona presented multiple options for the new space on campus. "There are a lot of options," Bellona said. He explained that the decision making process "is about coming up with what is best for the college moving forward."

Bellona presented how the establishment of a CEC space fits into Hamilton's Integrated Facilities Plan, which spans from 2006 to 2016. When the renovation and expansion of ELS is completed, the school will have reached the second phase of the three-part plan.

Vice President of Administration and Finance Karen Leach described the options for an interim solution, which included space in Beinecke or Milbank. The Fireplace Lounge was specifically given as a candidate for space, since it is apparently unpopular with students.

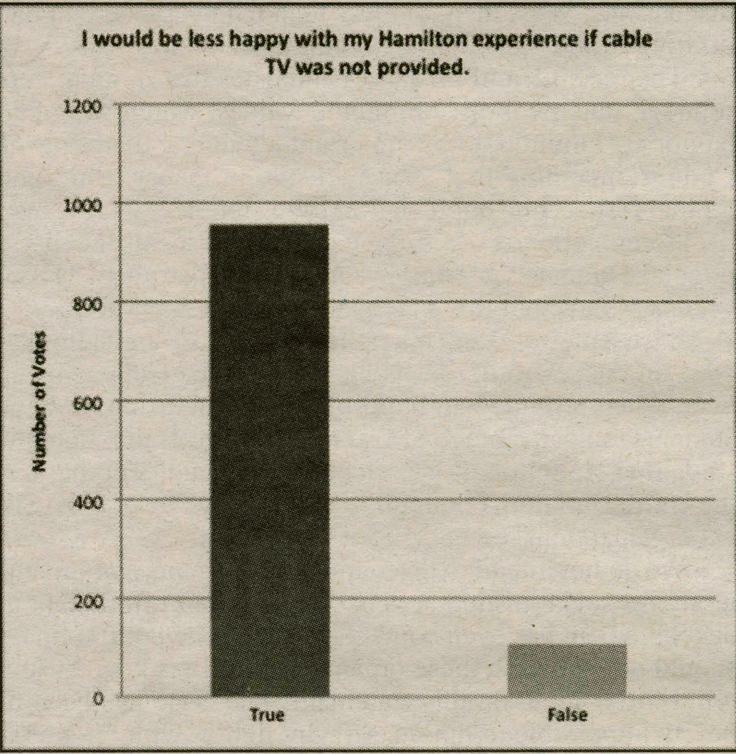
Leach stated, "There is no underutilized space on campus." She mentioned that more space would become available in Bristol Center after its current occupants move to the completed ELS, but that there is "not much" open now. Because the Bristol family would like the building to remain student-oriented, Leach said that it will most likely house student services such as the health center next year.

By the end of the forum, Professor Madeleine Lopez, currently acting as consulting director for the CEC, said that, after looking around the room, "It doesn't seem that anybody is happy." But she claimed that the forum was a success since it allowed students to engage in discussion on issues that, up to this point, had been limited to private conversations.

Lopez welcomed students to contact her to share their thoughts and hoped to continue the dialogue on campus about the future of the CEC. She stressed the immediacy of the need to locate a space for programming soon, even if only as an interim solution.

Students Refuse to Cut Cord on Cable

In a recent survey sent via all-campus e-mail, the Student Assembly Technology Committee said, "ITS is considering terminating the current cable TV service provided at Hamilton, due to a perceived lack of interest." The results of the survey directly contradicted that perception. Nine hundred and sixteen students said that they had a TV in their room, while 147 said that they did not. Cable was clearly important to these TV owners, as nine hundred and eighty-nine students said that they watch cable TV while seventy-four said that they did not. Nine hundred and fifty-six students said that they would be less happy with their Hamilton experience if cable TV was not provided and 107 who said that they would not.



Few Attend Meeting on Hamilton Values

from Assembly, page 1

to have a student drafted agreement about values made by the student body."

The meeting that took place on Wednesday was not well attended by the Hamilton community, despite multiple all campus e-mails soliciting student participation.

The statement, which would be sent to incoming freshman along with their orientation information and the honor pledge, would be a concise paragraph of expectations for them as students and members of the Hamilton community. The statement would go on to encourage students to think about their words and actions and the potential effects of those on others around them.

"Many other schools have an honor code," said student assembly president Amy Goldstein. "We have looked at statements from Smith, Haverford and Middlebury but this is different though because it does not imply or require judicial action."

Instead of requiring judicial action, if the statement is violated, it calls for students to take action and personal responsibility. "There is an engagement component in the agreement," said Goldstein. "We want people to address the situation themselves. If there is another incident, there would be something to point to and say that [diversity] is something students here value because the statement is written by students."

It may prove too difficult to tie the statement to judicial action; what one person finds offensive, another may not. For major violations including hate crimes and sexual assault, procedures are already outlined in the Student Handbook. The goal of the statement would not be to punish students but rather to set a standard for behavior and actions and to prevent future miscommunications in which something meant as a joke is found offensive.

The drafting of this statement is open to all students. In a meeting earlier this semester a mission and set of goals was compiled, and in the next meeting, the group hopes to add another component outlining the need for student intervention if they see potentially offensive behavior. The hope is that the statement will be completed in time to be voted on in the December All-Campus election as a referendum. All students are encouraged to become involved by attending future meetings to be announced via e-mail.

"The key to success of this statement is that it will be student driven saying this is something that the students themselves care about," said Goldstein. "In the coming years the Hamilton community is just going to become more diverse. This is necessary."

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THE SPECTATOR EDITORIAL

Statement of Community Values: *An Opportunity to Shape the Future*

The discussion of diversity and respect at Hamilton has been so prevalent on campus that the issue transcends any light/dark side divide. It appears as a hot button issue in publications ranging from *The Spectator* to *The Green Apple*, is passionately debated at dinner tables in Commons and McEwen and has played an active role in classroom discussions. Why, then, did less than ten people attend the recent meeting regarding the drafting of the Statement of Community Values?

The recent HamPoll survey indicates that more than 60 percent of the student body found a Statement of Community Values, which would articulate shared values for behavior at Hamilton, to be important enough to distribute alongside the Academic Honor Code to incoming first-year students. In theory, Hamilton students want to "strive for mutual respect and appreciation for differences." However, judging by the attendance of the aforementioned meeting, in practice, it seems that pressing issues, such as the wildly popular Humans vs. Zombies and the uproar about ITS potentially pulling the plug on cable TV, have put this statement on the backburner.

Last semester, students rallied the faculty and administration for increased transparency and accessibility in its handling of the College's community development. However, when provided an opportunity for inclusion, only an incredibly small number of students took advantage of that opportunity. If this statement is to be embraced by every student at Hamilton, it is undoubtedly a statement that ought to represent the beliefs of the entire Hamilton community, not simply those of the Student Assembly and a few vocal organizations.

We do not intend to discount those students and organizations that have lobbied tirelessly for social justice. It is because of their efforts that the idea for a Community Values Statement has even come to fruition. The bottom line, however, is that the discourse should not end with these organizers. There is no excuse for the community as a whole not to offer input on this statement. The issue has been thrust upon Hamilton and it is nearly impossible to ignore. So why fight it with feigned interest and apathy?

We at *The Spectator* encourage every student to dig deep to explore their own persuasions regarding diversity and respect at Hamilton. Once discovered, this knowledge is of little use unless it is offered, in some way, to the campus as a whole. The Statement of Community Values is an excellent way to facilitate these opinions, and to further promote a wide range of ideologies that come together to comprise our progressive and diverse campus.

Consider this point of comparison: Wednesday night, less than ten students cared to offer their input on a statement of community values that will carry as much weight as the Honor Code. Over 1,000 students though, found the time to express their concern over the potential loss of cable television. Admittedly, these two issues are vastly different, but the response to each of them tells us something about our priorities. Let us hope that the entire student body re-evaluates its priorities in time for the next meeting.

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Face Off: Does the Entrenched Light Side/Dark Side Division Discourage Campus Unity?

Yes

by Haley Riemer-Peltz '12
Opinion Writer

When I visited Hamilton as a prospective student, I really only got to see the "Hamilton" side of campus, which I later learned was called the Light Side. I think my tour went as far as Wellin Hall. I left with the impression that the students at Hamilton were generally homogenous, i.e. all preppy kids. Although there is nothing wrong with polos or argyle, I was slightly anxious entering a school that I experienced as mono-cultural.

Once I started school, however, I began to discover many other facets of Hamilton life that were not introduced to me on my visit. My original conception regarding politics on campus was that Hamilton students were generally apathetic. I soon came to find that the campus was rich with politically and culturally diverse groups interested in activism.

The major aspect of Hamilton that was brushed over in my tour was the Kirkland side of campus, or the Dark Side. Before I got here, I didn't know that it had formerly been a women's college; I only knew that it used to exist separately, and became fused with Hamilton.

Then, last spring I went to a panel celebrating the 40th anniversary of Kirkland College's establishment, marking 40 years of women on the Hill. The panel consisted of five women, an alumna from each decade and one current Hamilton student. They discussed the continuing progression of feminine integration into the College.

Hamilton, as a men's school, was always reputed as being very traditional and conservative in its teaching and culture. When Kirkland came onto the scene, it introduced Hamilton's polar opposite -- a school of radical women with decidedly untraditional teaching and no grades.

According to the one Kirkland alumna on the panel, the meshing of the two cultures into one school took a lot of time and effort. Eventually, though, with the addition of Martin's Way, the Hamilton that we know was born, with a Light Side and a Dark Side.

The Light Side is still stigmatized as the more traditional, conservative, athletic side of campus, while the Dark Side is stereotyped as home to the hippies, radicals and art students.

What I discovered by attending the panel was that our Hamilton owes its sense of adventure and creativity entirely to Kirkland. I was really excited to learn about a part of Hamilton that I'd never known about, but I was also frustrated at the general lack of knowledge about Kirkland on campus. I felt like the prevailing conception of Hamilton was only that of the Light Side.

I was never mad about the names of each side of campus, even though "dark" has a negative connotation. What I was most mad about was Admissions' lack of effort to make both prospective and current students aware of the history of the Dark Side.

Campus tours should include more of the Dark Side, including the Dark side quad and a typical double. I think the two sides of campus could become more integrated if both were equally acknowledged in the history of our college.

PHOTOS BY ANDY RICHARDSON '10

Some argue that the Light Side/Dark Side division stereotypes students. For example, Darksiders are perceived as more artsy, whereas Light Siders are atheletic. In reality, the differences are superficial.

No

by Sam Gomez '11
Opinion Writer

For anyone who's ever seen Spike Lee's "Malcolm X," the image is familiar. The iconic scene in which Malcolm and his prison mentor, Bimbi, look up the words white and black in the dictionary illustrates the effect that words can have on one's identity. This leads us to the obvious question—does Hamilton's Light Side/Dark Side division have a similar effect?

Students on campus casually refer to each other as Lightsiders or Darksiders. Simply put, the light side is more preppy-ish and the dark side is more hippy-ish. It's a lot more difficult to get a single in Eels or Fergueson than it is in Major or Macintosh. Some embrace their titles and some refuse to be classified by where they reside on campus. Overall, the division created by Campus Road cutting through the center of Hamilton has a greater effect than some realize.

Then, one may ask, what is the effect? Well, for one, campus tours simply don't cross over to Dark Side proper. As those who are Admissions tour guides can attest to, campus tours only go as far as Wellin Hall before they turn back. Once the nice red bricks that pave Martin's Way end, you're officially in Dark Side territory.

Instead of showing prospective students the oh-so-attractive concrete cubes that comprise Dark Side residence halls, Admissions prefers to leave them with the image of the lovely, spacious and, well, brick residence halls like South and Carnegie. Similarly, some may say, upkeep on the Dark Side is not quite up to par with Light Side standards. While snow removal and lawn care are certainly adequate, many Darksiders are familiar with the chronic drainage problems that occur every year around the spring thaw. Massive puddles form and mud is a ubiquitous occurrence. Despite these issues, however, as a Darksider, I personally enjoy the history, character and atmosphere that are part of Darkside living. Similarly, I'm sure, Lightsiders enjoy being in the center of the action, as well as being close to the gym.

Some may say that the classification of Light/Dark side is problematic because it discourages campus unity. Similarly, there has been talk of assigning different names to the two sides—this is apparent in all-campus emails that refer to the "North" and "South" sides of campus.

In fact, Admissions has instructed its tour guides not to refer to the two sides of campus as "Light" and "Dark" when giving tours. We all know how effective this top-down attempt at influencing campus vernacular is—after all, when was the last time you got a text from a friend telling you to come down and check out the awesome party at the "Tolles Pavilion?" What, I ask, is the big deal?

First of all, I get it—campus unity is important. We don't want Darksiders waging jihad on the Light Side because of the perception that the two sides have irreconcilable differences. Also, it might be nice for prospective students to become acquainted with the region in which they will attend their first college party.

While some Darksiders feel marginalized by the established order, they have to get comfortable with the fact that we are on the periphery. Other than Minor Field, there isn't much going on in our little world. There's no reason for anyone to go to the Dark Side unless they have a friend there or unless they are attending one of the many (awesome) suite parties. And then, of course, there's DU—but I won't get into that.

Simply put, the Dark Side/Light Side division is not necessarily a bad thing. In any campus community there will be those who want to fit in and those who refuse to conform. While I'm not saying that every Lightsider is a socialite and every Darksider is a non-conformist, the Light/Dark side division affords those who do fit into this generalization to have what they want. There is a unique atmosphere on each side of campus, each with its advantages and disadvantages.

I think that the campus community should embrace these differences, instead of pretending that we are all one big homogenous clique. There are differences between Darksiders and Lightsiders—other than the value of their lottery numbers. Diversity comes in many forms and I personally think that it should be embraced, not stifled. After all, as Brother Malcolm would agree, black is beautiful.

Cartoon by James Grebey '12
Staff Cartoonist

Letters *to the* Editor

Cartoon Misses Point of Amythest Initiative

To the Editors:

James Grebey's cartoon on page six of the Sept. 10 issue of *The Spectator* missed the point of the College's new rules on hard alcohol consumption and their relationship to the Amethyst Initiative.

Amethyst is a call to re-examine the nation's ineffective effort to curb dangerous drinking and drunk driving through a 21-year-old minimum drinking age. Amethyst was launched by Choose Responsibility, an organization working to lower the minimum drinking age to 18, when most young people and virtually all college students drink anyway.

I commend Hamilton President Joan Hinde Stewart for signing Amethyst, thereby encouraging the ongoing debate over the efficacy of current law. Her involvement, along with hundreds of other college presidents, might eventually lead to a change in the law and the promotion of more civilized drinking habits among newly-minted citizens, aged 18-20.

Choose Responsibility, on whose board I sit, believes that the presence of the older adults in settings where alcohol is consumed would serve to moderate behavior and, over time, reverse the culture of binge drinking that has evolved since the 21-year-old limit was made law in 1984.

Unfortunately, that hasn't happened yet, and campuses like Hamilton's are still caught in the thrall of a culture that "pre-games," all too often, leading to emergency room trips -- or worse. It is within that legal reality that college administrations seek ways to protect students in an environment in which they are going to drink regardless of what the law says.

As the original *Spectator* article about the new hard liquor rules correctly observed, there is a one-to-one relationship between alcohol detox hospitalizations at Hamilton and use of hard liquor. Bowdoin College instituted a ban on hard liquor, leading to a virtual elimination of emergency room transports. Bowdoin didn't try to ban drinking altogether; that would be counterproductive and indeed lead to even more clandestine drinking, as Mr. Grebey's cartoon suggests. Instead, they focused their attention on what was getting their students into trouble: the hard stuff. Students at Bowdoin still party, and they still drink. They're apparently just that much more careful about what and how they drink.

The reasoning behind Hamilton's new rules is the same: by upping the stakes for doing shots, which is really what this rule is all about, the College hopes to make Hamilton students think a bit more carefully about how they drink. And the more civilized their drinking behavior becomes over time, the more likely it is that the law will allow them to do so openly, along with the rest of us adults.

- Barrett Seaman '67, Charter Trustee of the College, author of *Binge: Campus Life in an Age of Disconnection and Excess* and a member of the Campus Alcohol Coalition.

A Note from the Editors

To Mr. Leubsdorf:

We would like to thank you for your response to our Sept. 10 Face Off: Are Structured Forum Necessary to Facilitate Change in Our Community. While we appreciate your thoughts, we are concerned that you misinterpreted some of our key points.

In regard to our supposed justification of campus-wide apathy, our rejection of a certain kind of activism (in this case, community forums) is not the same as hailing complete inaction. Never in our article did we suggest indifference as an option.

You say that we portrayed the Hamilton Community as a "hollow shell, filled with groups of people with no connections to each other beyound a name on a dimploma." We *can* understand one another, but only to a certain extent. There comes a point where you cannot expect everyone else to empathize with you. They do not know the particularities of your life experiences. Of course we should care about each other; our point is that people who do not express compassion of their own volition will not partake in these forums and therefore will not respond to their messages.

Finally, you claim that our greatest flaw is our focus on students' differences rather than similarities. However, in the real world, differences impact everyday life. Maybe this isn't the way it "should" be, but this is the way it is. Committees and forums attempt to resolve differences by "working together" from a united perspective. But, as mentioned above, offenses are personal and individual issues and they need to be addressed at that level.

Sincerely,

Allison Eck '12
& Kate Moore '12
Opinion Editors

ITS Proposes Pulling the Plug on Cable Television: *But How Will We Survive?*

by Tracey Ogagba '12
Opinion Writer

Time and time again we talk of this "Hamilton Bubble." This bubble can be so pervasive that we don't even notice when we become completely submerged in Hamilton culture and forget that there is life outside Clinton, N.Y. Losing touch with the parts of the world that don't suffer from snow in October or never-ending party theme controversies is a serious issue.

So when Information Technology Services announced that it may cut Hamilton's cable service, it seemed as though the bubble in which we reside might shrink even more. While no one is entirely sure what the fate of Hamilton's cable TV service will be, it appears that ITS is weighing this as an option for a possible budget cut.

If ITS chooses to cut cable service, it will contradict one of the central principles of Hamilton policy: that there is a variety of social activities on weekends. Those who don't feel comfortable drinking shouldn't feel isolated in this Keystone-filled bubble. The school is so devoted to this idea that Student Activities funds alcohol-free late night events.

One alcohol-free alternative is sitting around the TV with a group of friends to catch up on the latest VH1 reality show. But if cable is taken away, students lose this option. Of course, there will always be Knit Happens meetings for students to attend in lieu of watching the latest episode of the Real World, but once the weather gets bad, students won't be as willing to venture out into the perpetual snow storm. If the administration wants to ensure that students enjoy a comfortable and entertaining nightlife, they must keep the cable TV service.

> **"If the administration wants to ensure that students enjoy a comfortable and entertaining nightlife, they must keep the cable TV service."**

The apparent logic behind the move away from cable is that online video playback sites, such as Hulu, provide an alternative to watching live TV. This "on demand" option is becoming more popular with students.

While it is true that in a few days I will be able watch the season premiere of "House" online, it's worth noting that Hulu partners with mostly public stations; this is not an alternative way to view *cable* TV.

The truth of the matter is that cable TV is just fun. Besides, if we didn't have cable, no one at Hamilton would have seen Kanye West interrupt Taylor Swift live at the Video Music Awards. For that reason alone, cable should stay forever.

Are you a hardcore dark-sider? Or are your loyalties with the light side? How far would you go to save your cable tv? Or is there something else that you'd like to address?
Share your thoughts in a letter to the editor or a guest article.
Email aeck or kjmoore for more information.

Thumbs Up

Hamilton Says No! Students vote overwhelmingly to keep cable on campus. All but you 100 fun-hating a$%holes. What? Too busy practicing Capoeira?

Wet Hot American Summer Party: ATX and PBX double team Bundy looking for future investment bankers to double team.

Football Season Begins: Let's go Hamilton. Time to prove those academic scholarships were my tuition money well spent.

Green Week: Let's keep those lights off and stop releasing CFCs. Except you, Capoeira, keep those air fresheners at the ready.

Thumbs Down

My Thesis: Work-induced sobriety is getting almost as tedious as *Afternoon Delight*. At least they'll both be over next year.

Unnecessary Parking Tickets: Ticket me once: shame on you. Ticket me twice: I start an underground crime ring so you have something legitimate to do.

The Fire Inspector: You can take down the Milbank Jurassic Park poster, but you'll never take my freedom. Aside from my freedom to own a candle, use an extension cord, hang a tapestry or celebrate Christmas in my inflammable concrete dorm.

Who Cares?

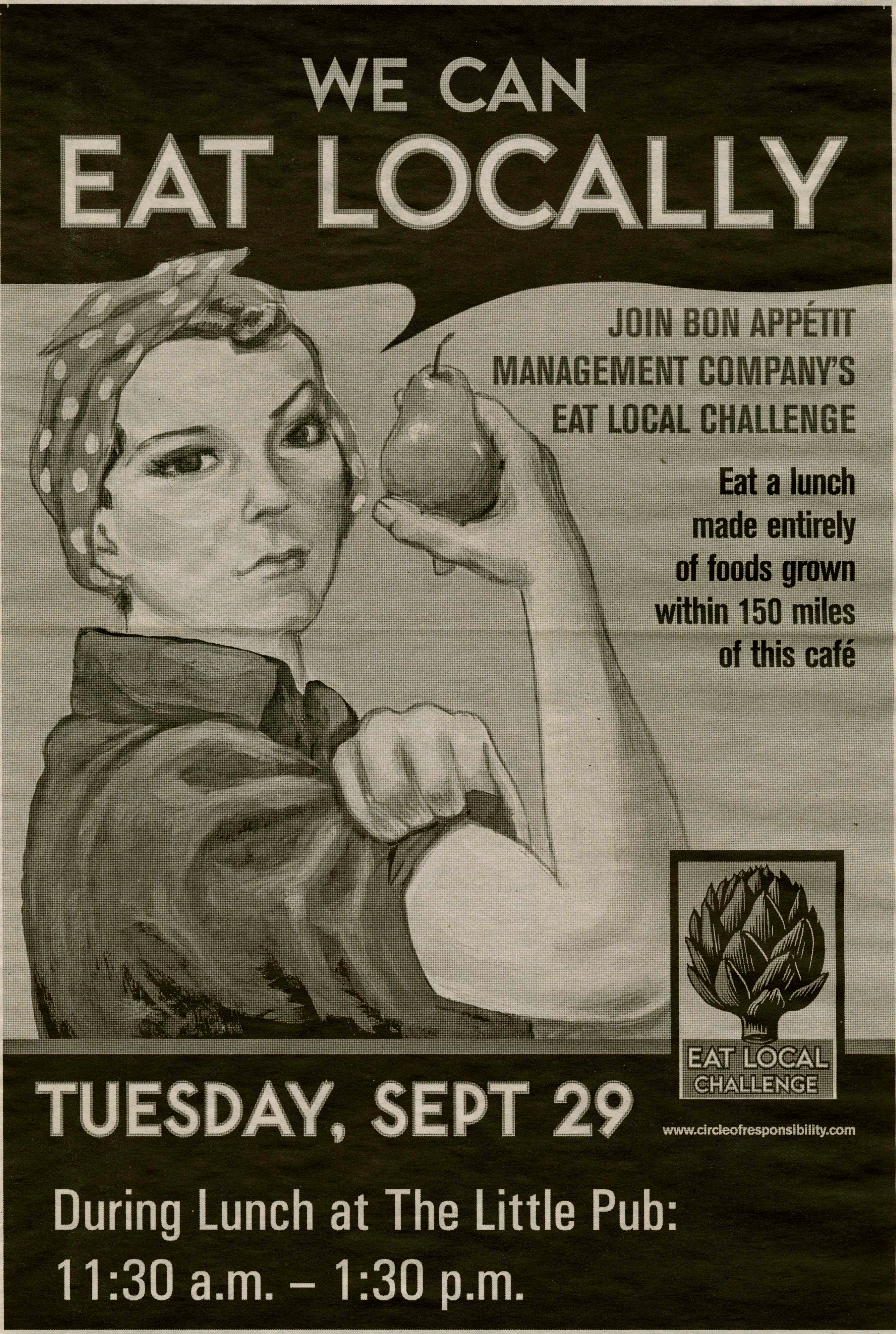
Ezra Pound: Someone might want to tell Admissions that if they're trying to make Hamilton seem like a more accepting place, they should stop championing the fact that he went here, especially on Rosh Hashanah. Do you know who pays invests endowment?

The Career Center's roadmap to success: Still not as popular amongst Hamilton students as the "Dad get me a job managing a hedge fund" GPS.

Afternoon Delight likely to fold: Congratulations *Daily Bull*, you're back to being the favorite red-headed stepchild of the Hamilton College Media Board!

by Anthony DelConte '10, Nathan Fedrizzi '10, and Lesley Ryder '11

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.


WE CAN
EAT LOCALLY
JOIN BON APPÉTIT
MANAGEMENT COMPANY'S
EAT LOCAL CHALLENGE
Eat a lunch
made entirely
of foods grown
within 150 miles
of this café
EAT LOCAL
CHALLENGE
TUESDAY, SEPT 29
www.circleofresponsibility.com
During Lunch at The Little Pub:
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

The 2009 Hamilton College F.I.L.M. Series

by Laura Wright '10
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

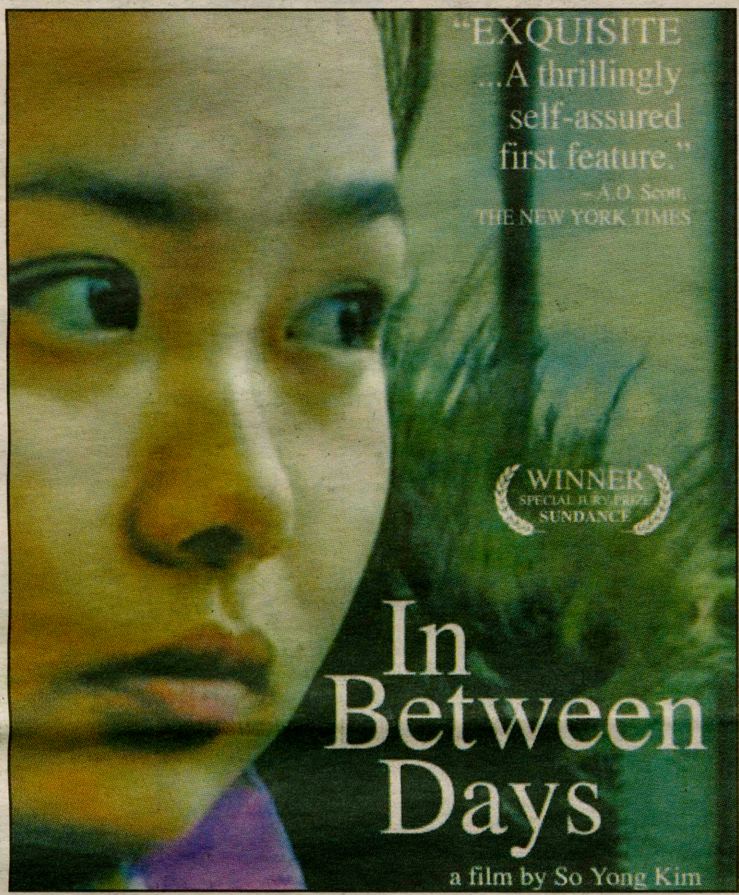
The Forum on Image and Language in Motion, or F.I.L.M. series, is an annual event at Hamilton that brings experimental filmmakers to campus for public discussion of film theory and practice.

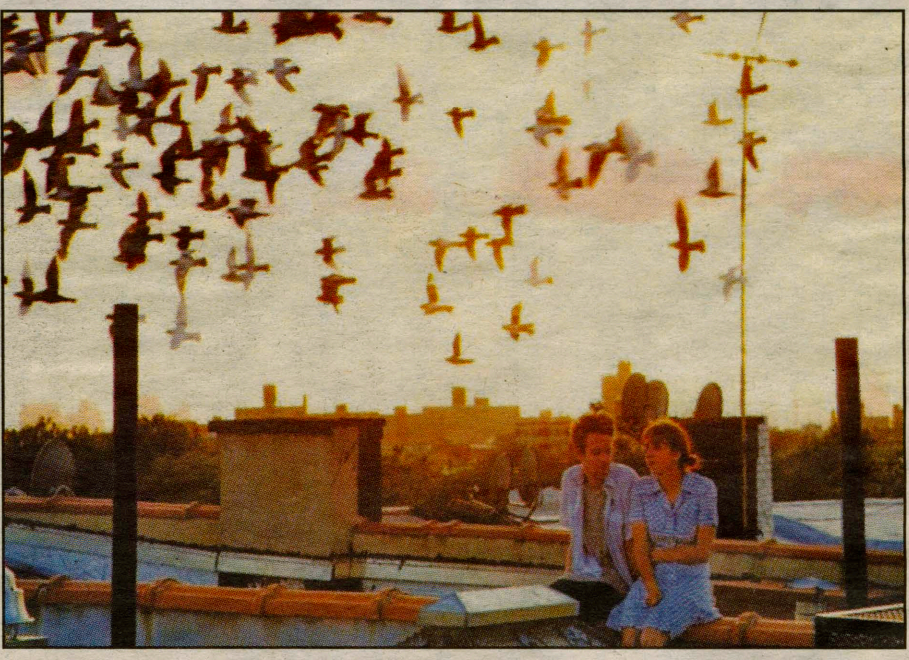
This year's F.I.L.M. series started out with a fantastic collection of three films from filmmakers So Yong Kim and Bradley Rust Gray. All three of the pieces were incredibly evocative, both aesthetically and emotionally; those who attended were certainly not disappointed. The weekend started with So Yong Kim's first feature length film, *In Between Days*. Following the slow pace of daily life for two Korean teenagers in Toronto, the film explores the delicate line between friendship and romance. What made this film exquisite was its brutally honest portrayal of the hesitance and self-consciousness inherent in teenage emotions. Aimee, a young girl living with her mother, struggles to address her feelings for Tram, her best friend, while simultaneously dealing with the complexities of her father's absence. The composition and pace of the film are simply perfect. There are few films I can think of that handle the emotional ambiguity of the teenage existence better than *In Between Days* — and this was Kim's first film.

The second film of this weekend's F.I.L.M. event was *The Exploding Girl*. As director Bradley Rust Gray explained, the film's title was meant to reflect its nature as a sort of "B-side" to his wife Kim's movie, *In Between Days* (which is a song off the album *The Head on the Door* by The Cure, the "B-side" of which contains a song called "Flaming Boy.") The movie was similar to the first, though it followed the events of a college spring break, when two friends from high school return home from their respective universities and find themselves in a strange limbo, juggling mixed emotions toward various parties, including one another. *Exploding Girl* seemed just a snapshot of the lives of two intriguing characters, though the moment captured was incredibly rich and poignant. Tony Rayns, of the film magazine *Sight and Sound*, said that "what makes this riveting viewing is the miraculous combination of naturalism (the performances never for a moment seem like 'acting') and visual poetry."

The final film shown this weekend was another of So Yong Kim's: *Treeless Mountain*. We followed two young sisters, Jin and Bin, through their experiences living with various relatives as their mother goes on a journey in search of an estranged father. The two actresses, neither of which had any previous acting experience, portrayed an incredibly honest account of the confusion and frustration that children can experience. *The Village Voice*, a cultural magazine in New York City, describes *Treeless Mountain* as "simply one of the best films about childhood ever made." The cinematography was absolutely spectacular; the film was interspersed with shots of landscapes and skyscapes, some so breathtaking as to suspend the audience in an unexpected meditation or reverence. Yet though the aesthetic components of the film were wonderful, the compelling characteristics of the sisters made deep impressions upon the audience. This film was pure and captured the purity of childhood emotions.

The three movies shown this past weekend were a treat to have on campus, and the opportunity to speak with the filmmakers about their own work was greatly appreciated by many. There will be more opportunities this semester to take advantage of the incredible films being presented on campus through the F.I.L.M series.





WWW.EYEONFILM.WORDPRESS.COM

A still from Bradley Rust Gray's film *The Exploding Girl* about the complicated new relationship between two college students.

The 2009 F.I.L.M. Schedule

***9/27: The Alloy Orchestra returns, with Dziga Vertov's* The Man with a Movie Camera (1929)**

***10/4: Jennifer Todd Reeves presents* When It Was Blue (2008)**

***10/11: Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy presents* Pakistan's Taliban Generation (2009)**

10/25: Professor Dan Streible lectures on early fight films

11/1: Cine-Nocturnes, a presentation by Professor Scott MacDonald

11/8: A* Journey *Reunion (This event begins at 1pm.)

***11/15: Arthur and Jennifer Smith present* Ice Bears of the Beaufort (2008)**

WWW.CINEMAPOACHING.WORDPRESS.COM

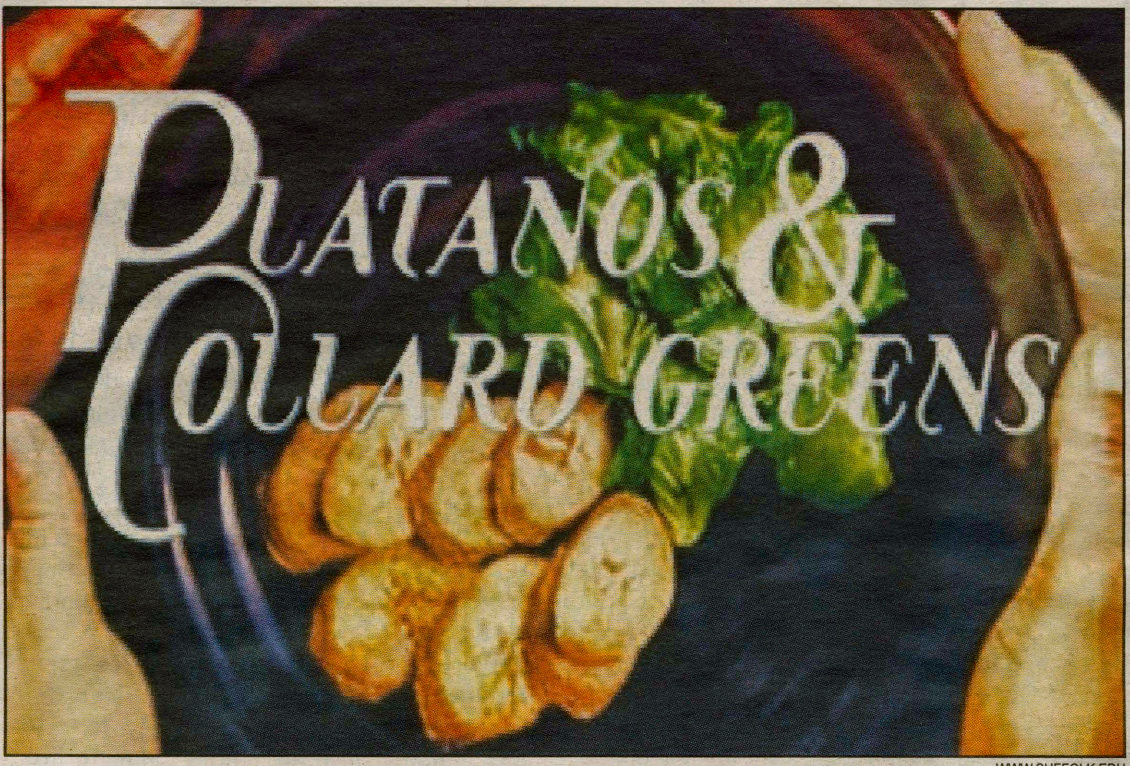
So Yong Kim's honest tale of the struggles and confusion two young sisters face as they shuttle between various relatives in the absence of their mother.

Platanos and Collard Greens Tackles Issues of Romance, Race and Culture

by Lily Gillespie '12
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Perhaps you have seen the fliers or read the e-mails about Latino Heritage Month, but this is your opportunity to actually partake in a piece of it by attending the play *Platanos and Collard Greens*. Written by David Lamb and directed by Summer Hill Seven, this romantic comedy is the story of something with which we are all aware: college relationships. However, this particular relationship has more complications than most. The pair is an African-American man and a Latino woman are forced to overcome racial and cultural prejudices. The play challenges the audience to reevaluate their notions of racial and cultural stereotypes with humor.

Platanos and Collard Greens opened in New York City in 2003 and has packed houses ever since. Not long after debuting in New York theaters, the director decided to take the play on a college tour, visiting schools from coast to coast, including Hamilton. The play has received phenomenal reviews in the both small and large press. *The New York Times* called it, "A modern day West Side Story ... [that] has developed a huge following among people who come to see it again and again;" within the Hamilton community, BLSU explained that, "*Platanos and Collard Greens* is an eloquently written play that motivates today's youth to address issues of race, color and systematic injustices that effect minority communities..." It is a production that appeals to all people because it examines not only issues of race, but issues of relationships in general, especially those in college. This piece is one that promises to both enlighten and entertain, making it well-worth the trip to Wellin this Saturday, September 26 at 8 p.m.



WWW.SUFFOLK.EDU

An African-American man, Freeman, and a Latino woman, Angelita, fall in love despite their differences in race, culture and the objections of their two families.

WHCL DJs Get Into the Right Rhythm

PHOTO COURTESY OF HENRY ANREDER '12

DJ: Henry Anreder and Daniel Feinberg
Title of Your Show: SMR
Significance of the Title: Our title stands for Stephen Malkmus Radio. Malkmus is the lead singer and songwriter of the seminal-indie band Pavement. We try to include at least one Pavement song each show, as well as music by related artists.
Type of Show: Music and Cultural Commentary
Show Time: Wednesdays at 4 PM
Music Genre(s): Independent Rock
Favorite Artists: From the 1990s, we really like Pavement, Built to Spill, Neutral Milk Hotel, Dinosaur Jr., Pixies, and Sonic Youth. Some new bands we are into include The Hold Steady, The Rural Alberta Advantage, Cymbals Eat Guitars and Sunset Rubdown.
Least Favorite Artist: Nickelback.
Song That Describes You: Thumb by Dinosaur Jr.
Do you accept call-ins? Yes
Target Audience: The masses
DJ-ing Experience: SMR is in its second semester. Henry also had some other shows last year.
Why People Should Listen to the Show: They shouldn't.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RUSS DOUBLEDAY '11

DJ: Will Brodt and Russ Doubleday
Title of Your Show: Viva FIFA
Significance of the Title: Long live soccer!
Type of Show: Talk show
Show Time: Sundays 12-1pm
Music Genre(s): Talk...?
Favorite Players/Teams: Clint Dempsey, Oguchi Onyewu, Jozy Altidore, Arsenal, Fulham, US National Team, Rob Bryan
Least Favorite Players/Teams: Didier Drogba, Emmanuel Adebayor, Cristiano Ronaldo, Chelsea, Del Mundo
Song That Describes You: Seven Nation Army by the White Stripes since it was played before every game at the 2008 European Championships
Do you accept call-ins? Yes PLEASE
Target Audience: Soccer Hooligans, casual fans, our parents
DJ-ing Experience: This is our 4th semester doing this show
Why People Should Listen to the Show: We want to have more than one listener when we go on the air (Russ' mom). And we'd like to think that we know a thing or two about soccer

Weekly Charts

MUSIC
(From billboard.com)

Top Songs

1. Black Eyed Peas--I Gotta Feeling
2. Jay Sean feat, Lil Wayne--Down
3. Miley Cyrus--Party in the U.S.A.
4. Jay-Z, Rihanna, Kanye West--Run This Town
5. Kings of Leon--Use Somebody

Top Albums

1. Jay-Z--The Blueprint 3
2. Miley Cyrus--Time of Our Lives
3. Whitney Houston--I Look To You
4. Raekwon--Only Built for Cuban Linx...P...
5. Brooks & Dunn--#1s And Then Some

MOVIES
(imdb.com)

1. *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*
2. *The Informant!*
3. *I Can Do Bad All by Myself*
4. *Love Happens*
5. *Jennifer's Body*

BOOKS
(From The New York Times Best Seller *List)*

Paperback Fiction

1. *The Time Traveler's Wife*, by Audrey Niffenegger
2. *The Shack*, by William P. Young
3. *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo*, by Stieg Larsson
4. *The Guersney and Potato Peel Pie Society*, by Marry Ann Shaffer
5. *Olive Kitteridge*, by Elizabeth Strout

Paperback Non-Fiction

1. *Glenn Beck's 'Common Sense,'* by Glenn Beck
2. *My Life in France*, by Julia Child with Alex Prud'homme
3. *Three Cups of Tea*, by Greg Mortensen and David Oliver Relin
4. *Freakonomics*, by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner
5. *Julie and Julia*, by Julie Powell

How to Keep Building Your Resume on the Hill

by Maja Feenick '13
Features Writer

Some poeple might believe that the Career Center would only be useful to graduating seniors, but that is not the case. The Center is one of many support resources for students here at Hamilton. According to Eve Denton '12 and professional counselor Shannon Shannon "it's never too early – or too late–to look forward!"

The Career Center's mission is to offer support to students as they consider career options and to guide them in the process of finding a first job or deciding to go on to graduate school.

The counselors are trained to help students translate what they've learned through their liberal arts education at Hamilton College into a career that brings them satisfaction and achievement. Philosophically, the Center empowers students to consider all options. According to the Philosophy Statement, "It is [the Career Center's] belief that all work is important, regardless of salary level, prestige, or current popularity."

The Career Center also makes it clear that they will aid you no matter where you are in the job searching process. Even if you have no idea what you want to do or haven't started a resumé, self-assessment tools and counseling services are available to help students identify their strengths and interests.

Also central to the mission of the Center is to teach students skills to manage the job search process and their careers throughout their lives. The counselors offer practical assistance with resumé writing and revision, interview skills, finding job leads – including internship opportunities–and learning to manage career demands and opportunities.

According to Denton, what you'll find at the Center is a well trained staff of counselors, including five to six professional counselors and five peer counselors, all with different areas of expertise. The counselors are trained to support a process of self awareness and autonomy as students connect what they learn and what they want to pursue in life. As the Philosophy Statement claims, "Our expectation is that students will take responsibility for their own career decisions without undue influence from others."

So when is the right time to explore the Career Center? Students can begin taking advantage of it as early as their first year up until they graduate. Even if you are a senior and haven't given it much thought, or a first year in the springtime who wants to start exploring options for a summer internship, the counselors encourage students of all ages to take advantage of the Career Center.

WWW.HAMILTON.EDU
The Career Center is located up the Hill from the Health Center.

There are also things students can do prior to their appointment at the Career Center, such as using FOCUS, an online assessment tool. Also, you can research career fields you may be interested in, or draft your resumé using OptimalResume and their "Resume Guide." HamNet is a great online resource to find out about career-related campus events, internships and jobs.

The Career Center is the yellow building near the Dunham Circle and appointments with professional counselors can be made between 9 a.m. and 3:30p.m. Monday through Friday. Peer counselors are also available in the evenings (from 7 to 9 p.m.) on Monday through Thursday.

There are many resources here at Hamilton College, and it's never too early to start thinking about your future. Assistance in securing internships is one example of how students are well served by tapping the resources of the Career Center early on. Internships are a great way to explore career options and work environments. Plus, the self assessment tools may help students discover untapped areas of interest to explore academically.

No matter where you are in the timeline of your Hamilton experience, there is much to gain and nothing to lose by visiting the Career Center and exploring all the options on campus.

Worth Getting off the Hill for: Mitsuba Japanese Cuisine

by Rachel Lieberberg '13
Features Writer

Growing up near New York City has undoubtedly transformed me into an avid sushi lover. Although Commons sushi usually suffices, I desperately long for a fresh, filling meal in an authentic Japanese setting. For those who face a similar plight on a low budget, Mitsuba is definitely worth getting off the Hill for.

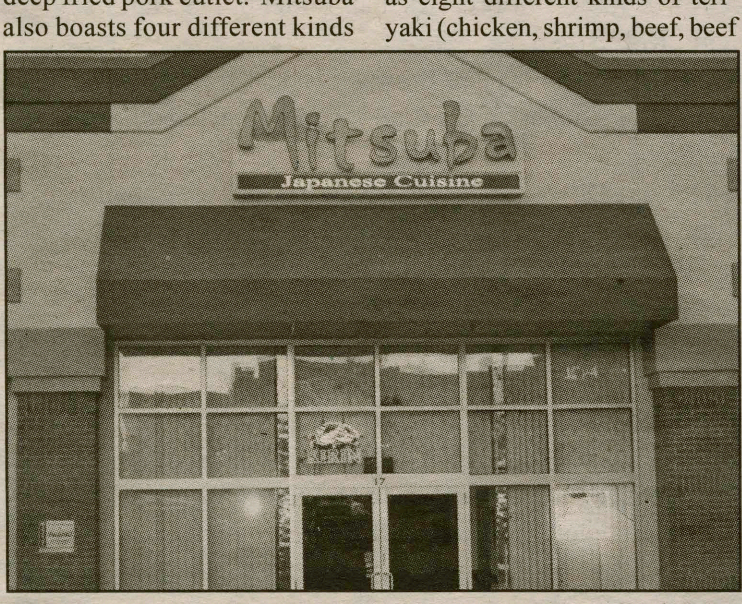
Adjacent to Marquee Cinemas in New Hartford, Mitsuba promises good music, good service and, most importantly, great food. Upon my arrival, I was immediately seated by a friendly host, Nicole, who proceeded to detail Mitsuba's latest "monthly creation." This month's special, the "Crazy Monkey Roll" consists of white rice, fried banana and spicy tuna, and I can attest that this seemingly bizarre compilation is actually quite delicious.

When I asked Nicole what prompted the Mitsuba chefs to develop such an interesting dish, she commented, "Our chefs are always looking for a creative roll to satisfy and surprise our customers."

I had the pleasure of witnessing such chefs at work, and it was obvious that they take tremendous pride in their preparations. Consuming raw fish undoubtedly produces anxiety amongst some diners, but my concerns were immediately alleviated as I witnessed the conscientious methodology of the Mitsuba cooks. Perched in front of the sushi bar, I had a direct view of the wide array of fresh fish–most notably squid, crab and tuna. In addition to the Crazy Monkey Roll, I devoured the "Lover Roll Combo," which consists of four pieces of fresh tuna, cucumber, and California rolls.

Not big on raw fish? No problem. Mitsuba goes to great lengths to satisfy a variety of palettes. My dining companion thoroughly enjoyed Tonktasu, a deep fried pork cutlet. Mitsuba also boasts four different kinds of tempuras (shrimp, seafood, chicken and vegetable), as well as eight different kinds of teriyaki (chicken, shrimp, beef, beef negimaki, scallop, salmon, tofu and vegetable).

ALL PHOTOS BY RACHEL LIEBERBERG '13



Mitsuba in New Hartford is expanding to a new location.

For those who enjoy sushi sans raw fish, Mitsuba's "New Hartford Roll," its most popular dish, contains shrimp tempura and avocado topped with crabmeat, tobiko and scallions. All dinner entrees come with miso soup and salad and fall somewhere in the affordable price range of $7-$17.

Mitsuba's unwavering desire to serve the New Hartford/Clinton community is evidenced through the establishment of Mitsuba Hibachi Steakhouse & Asian Bistro, which is expected to open Nov. 1. Located at 8562 Seneca Turnpike, in the space that was formerly Ground Round, the new Mitsuba mixes menu options from Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia to provide its consumer with a taste of Southeast Asian cuisine.

Nicole explains that Mitsuba's owner "wanted to bring something different to the table," and felt that "the Hibachi/Bistro setting would provide the diner with a unique experience."

Looking for inexpensive, fresh sushi and an overall pleasant outing? I highly recommend getting off the Hill and heading to Mitsuba (I know I'll be there again soon).

Mitsuba Japanese Cuisine:
The Orchard Plaza
17 Ellinwood Dr
New Hartford, NY
13413

(315) 768-8266
www.mitsubacuisine.com

Monday - Thursday
11:30-2:30
4:30-10:00
Friday and Saturday
11:30-2:30
4:30-11:00
Sunday
11:30-2:30
4:30-9:30

The COOP Seeks Permanent Funding

by Emily Anderson '13
Features Writer

Whether you realize it or not, you have probably already become involved with the COOP—Hamilton's Community Outreach and Opportunity Project. Whether you volunteered at "Make A Difference Day" or were one of the 50-plus students to participate in Urban Service Experience, you have already worked under the COOP. In addition, all freshman and sophomores participated in Hamilton Serves (a COOP project) during their orientations.

Above: (from left) Chris Delacruz '13, Kelsey Craw '12 and Barsha Baral '13. Below: (from left) Stanthia Ryan '13, Baral and Maggie Lavoie '13. All photos from Johnson Park Youth Center, in Utica.

The COOP serves as a sort of "umbrella" under which HAVOC (Hamilton Assocation for Volunteering, Outreach and Charity), A Better Chance Tutoring, Urban Service Experience and Alternative Spring Break all operate. Not only does the COOP advise all of these organizations, it helps fund them as well. In addition, the COOP functions as a resource for non-profit agencies in Oneida County to communicate with Hamilton, forming lasting relationships between the college and these agencies.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF KELSEY CRAW '12

The group is headed by Amy James, who is also the Director of Orientation. Jeff McArn serves as the Advisory Board Chair, in addition to being the college chaplain. Jeremy Wattles, Assistant Director of the COOP, is a VISTA worker through the AmeriCorps program. Lisa Nassimos works as the Office Coordinator for both the chaplaincy and the COOP and handles the group's finances.

A group of students, including many Urban Service Experience leaders, is working to promote the COOP to the administration and student body. In order to continue all of the work it does in aiding students who want to serve, the COOP is in need of more resources and more full-time workers. Currently, the COOP gets very little funding and receives no money for salaries.

The COOP is located on the third floor of the chapel. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about the COOP either visit the office or e-mail Kelsey Craw '12 (kcraw@hamilton.edu), a student volunteer coordinator.

FROM WHERE I SIT

HAMILTON'S INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

by Xiubo Feng '13
Features Contributor

"The First Transition"

"The superintendent must be very happy," replied my uncle Tom after I told him that I had been accepted at Hamilton College. As the first student admitted from Cambridge Ridge and Latin School, I felt like the luckiest student in the world.

To best prepare myself for the rigorous courses at Hamilton, I began my internship at Harvard Medical School. On the weekends, my family often drove to Rhode Island, where my uncle does business with Brown University. My uncle, an MIT graduate, nodded his head approvingly when he heard of my acceptance. In order to be admitted into MIT, Tom had to be in the top one percent at the Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics. Thus, he smiled approvingly upon my privilege to study on the Hill. After patting me on the head, he gave me an iPhone. As my college days approached, I could not wait to start learning at Hamilton.

Today I have come to appreciate Hamilton's academic environment. As a national leader for teaching students to write effectively, I knew I should study hard to better appreciate this privilege. Many Chinese students, like my younger cousin, might never have the opportunity that I have now. From China to the U.S., I feel strong and confident as a Chinese-American student on the Hill. I can call both worlds home.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KELSEY CRAW '12

Students like Xiubo Feng participate in community outreach with HAVOC.

The fun never ends at Hamilton. During Orientation, in the Hamilton Serves program our project involved removing a tree from a Utica resident's backyard. It was a spectacular experience! I had never worked with garden tools or done any landscape projects in my life. The Utica resident and his son were patient enough to teach me how to slice branches with a Husky Knife. We also experimented with the crop clippers and wearing synthetic cotton gloves. After we cleared the sides of the yard, we attacked the tree. Initially we mistook the tree for an overgrown shrub. After ten minutes of digging, we discovered that the roots to be a salmon color. From that observation, we extrapolated that the tree was a maple sapling.

With great effort, we worked until noon digging up the tree, when all of a sudden swarms of ants assaulted us in protest. They poured out of the root holes, wave by wave. Having realized that the brown creatures were scaling our work boots, all four of us decided to launch a counter retaliation. We connected a hose to the house's outside faucet then we flooded the ant tunnels with water.

This action solved the ant problem. Coincidentally, the water also made our work much easier. The tunnels around the roots collapsed, and thus debilitated the firmness of the soil. We walked over to work on the second resident's yard while we waited for the ants to drown. After one and a half hours, we pulled the tree out, along with thousands of ants.

In the second neighbor's yard, we uprooted real shrubs. The shrubs had grown into defensive structures. They looked like large hamburger buns, and had roots five times as long as the shrubs were high. To complete our goal, we had to pull out the garden hoes. To manage the swinging, we each designated where we would be slamming the hoe down at the plant. After we sunk the hoes deep enough into the shrub, we pulled the shrub out like a cork from a wine bottle until it popped. As some shrubs split in two, we were forced to take additional measures. We decided to collapse the foundation around the shrubs. By excavating the vicinity, we broke all their major root connections. Thus the shrubs could be pulled out easily.

Upon my return to the Hill, I realized the learning experience that day was not necessarily in the curriculum, but rather a community experience that was part of my transition to life as a Hamilton student.

"From Where I Sit" is the ESOL column that presents the non-native English speaker's point of view on his or her experience at an American college. If you have a "From Where I Sit" story that you would like to share, please email bbritthy@hamilton.edu

L O G I C P U Z Z L E

by Russell Marcus
Professor of Philosophy

Logic Puzzle #1: Back to Campus

Here is a traditional-style logic puzzle to start our year. From the following eight claims, you can determine the names of six (fictional) returning students (one of whom is named Deborah), their dorms (one of which is Bundy), their majors (one of which is art), the order in which they returned to campus, and the order in which they had their first class of the semester. There is one trick: precisely one of the eight sentences contains false information, and can be completely discounted. The other sentences are all true.

1. The person who lives in Root is disappointed that she was the first of the six to have her first class.
2. The physics major is neither Bhavin nor Emil, and lives in neither Minor nor Dunham.
3. Frank was the last to arrive, but his best friend, who lives across College Hill Road in Wertimer, was the first to have his/her first class.
4. The psychology major had his/her first class third; the physics major arrived on campus second and had his/her first class fifth.
5. The economics major, who lives in South, was glad to arrive first on campus, and to be the last to have his/her first class.
6. Charlotte arrived just after Emil and just before Frank; she had her first class immediately after the person who lives in Wertimer, and immediately before the Root-dweller, who had his/her first class just before Andrea.
7. The person who lives in Wertimer, who is not the mathematics major, and the person who lives in Root are Buffers.
8. The philosophy major, who does not live in Dunham, did not arrive fourth or fifth.

Challenge

Match each of the six students with their dorms, majors, the order in which they returned to campus, and the order in which they had their first class of the semester.\

Rules

Solutions to Puzzle #1: Back to Campus may be sent to puzzle@hamilton.edu, or, via campus mail, to Russell Marcus, Philosophy Department. Make sure to include your contact information with your solution. A winner will be chosen at random among those who submit correct solutions. Any one may play the puzzle, but only current Hamilton College students may win prizes. If the winner of the puzzle is not a Hamilton College student, a secondary winner may be chosen.

Prizes

Prize winners receive a t-shirt or mug from Lulasail, home of the best philosophy t-shirts on the web. The Deadline for Puzzle #1 is Tuesday, September 29 at 4pm. All entries must be received by that time. Visit our website: www.thatmarcusfamily.org/philosophy/HCPuzzles

Green Week Starts Strong with Farmers' Market

Vendors included Clinton Cider Mill, Hamilton Community Campus Farm, Tom's Natural Foods

by Ben Trachtman '12
Science & Technology Editor

Monday marked the beginning of Green Week, sponsored by the Hamilton Environmental Action Group (HEAG). The week kicked off with a farmers' market, which showcased arts, crafts, and foods from local sources, including natural preserves and jams from the Clinton Cider Mill, vegetables grown at Hamilton's Community Farm and locally produced snacks from Tom's Natural Foods. Other stands had honey and bee's wax candles, drawings and paintings and flowers from the around the area.

Although Green Week and the farmers' market has been around for years, HEAG has ensured that nothing has gotten stale or fallen by the wayside, while maintaining the atmosphere of the event. Many of the sellers at the market were veterans of the affair, but HEAG still brought in new vendors from the region to sell different varieties of local goods.

Rosemary Konkol has been selling her flowers, herbs and other plants at farmers' markets since 1997, but this was her first farmers' market at Hamilton. She was at the Clinton farmers' market when she was invited to attend the market here, and said she was eager to have the opportunity. "I really like it up here," she said. "The students are wonderful and ask great questions."

Not everyone at the farmers' market was new. Judy Poccia has appeared at two previous farmers' markets events at Hamilton with her handmade jewelry. "I love watching the students and faculty go by," she said. "Everyone is so friendly here."

Barb Palmer, representing her husband Mahlon, is another fixture of Green Week. She and her honey, bee's wax candles, gifts and other crafts have been at Green Week for seven years. The event had been displaced from its usual location along Martin's Way due to the construction around Emerson Hall, but Palmer thought it turned out for the better in its new location outside of Commons Dining Hall. "We seem to get a lot more people here than where we used to be. I think it's a friendlier atmosphere when people come out of the dining hall and sit nearby during lunch."

The vendors were not the only ones who enjoyed the event. Students and faculty were constantly browsing the tables and chatting with the vendors on their way past Commons. "It was really great to see this kind of turnout for an event promoting sustainable foods and eating locally," said Leslie Cohen '12, who is a member of the Farm Board. "It is really encouraging to know that we're having a positive effect on the community and that our message is being heard."

The significance of the farmers' market was not lost in the fun of it. One of HEAG's major themes for Green Week this year is buying locally

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The final Green Week activity is an all-campus clean-up, which will occur from 1-4 p.m. on Friday. The clean-up will include the Root Glen (above).

grown and organic foods to help promote sustainability and cut down on greenhouse gas emissions. The movie that was shown on Wednesday night, "Food, Inc.," co-sponsored by the Coalition for Animal Rights Education, is about the current state of the food industry and its negative impact on the health of the environment and its consumers (*see page 13*).

The local food movement arose as a way of reducing the amount of carbon emissions produced by transporting food across long distances in addition to supporting the local economy. The Hamilton community is no stranger to this concept, as food services provider Bon Appétit frequently uses locally produced foods such as meat and apples in dining halls on campus. The farmers' market was a great demonstration of local eating, drawing attention to where our food comes from as well as the environmental impact of transporting it.

The farmers' market was a wonderful outdoor event on a beautiful day, but it also had real significance behind it. As a community of over 1,800 students, faculty, and staff, Hamilton must be dedicated to the idea of sustainability, and eating locally is one small, easy step towards the goal of being carbon-neutral. Last year, Hamilton produced over 22,000 metric tons of CO_2. By taking even small measures such as those stressed by Green Week, the community can prevent hundreds, if not thousands of pounds of CO_2 emissions and do its part for the environment.

Other Green Week activities include a trivia poll by e-mail on Thursday. Prizes will be awarded to selected winners. Green Week will conclude with a campus-wide cleanup on Friday. The cleanup will be from 1-4 p.m. Students will divide into groups to cover Roger's Glen and the Light and Dark Sides. HEAG will send out more details about the cleanup as it approaches, so be on the lookout for updates.

Could Video Games Be Good For You?

by Yinghan Ding '12
Science & Technology Writer

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Many people believe that playing video games is just a waste of time. However, in a recent neuroscience study, a team of three researchers from Canada and the United States found a connection between playing video games and the efficiency of the brain.

It sounds like a joke, but the study uses legitimate science. The scientists focused on the video game Tetris, in which players try to pack as many shapes as possible into a small space. According to intensive research from Dr. Richard Haier and Dr. Michael Crane, Tetris can actually lead to more efficient brain activity during play.

The researchers scanned the brains of 15 adolescent girls, aged 12-15, who played Tetris. Interestingly, the researchers did not scan the brains of boys, whom they thought had played too many video games. The scan showed that after three months of playing the block-stacking game, gray matter in the girls' brains became thicker. For those that are not familiar with neuroscience, gray matter is the mass of cells in the brain primarily responsible for processing information. Researchers found

see ***Playing****, page 13*

HEAG Hosts Talk With Prof. Williams on Active Citizenship

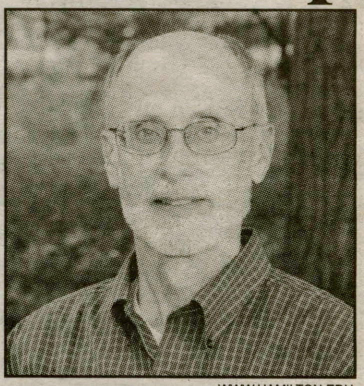
by Julia Litzky '12
Science & Technology Editor

Hamilton Environmental Action Group's (HEAG) mission statement explains that the organization's goal is "to inspire Hamilton to become a green campus—a campus that uses sustainable energy, recycles and is aware of its environmental impact." Part of accomplishing this goal requires everyday environmental awareness and activism. Tuesday evening, about 15 students gathered among the beanbag chairs and couches of the Glen House to discuss how to be environmentally active citizens, as described in the mission statement. Ernest Williams, professor of Biology, led the discussion, beginning with an explanation of why activism is important and how he has been active in the environmental community outside of Hamilton.

Williams discussed how activism begins with simple everyday activities, such as recycling and abstaining from using pesticides on our lawns. He also emphasized using the right to vote effectively and being an informed voter. "Know who's running in your area and vote accordingly. Let them know your feelings...I think the most effective things you can do environmentally are focused on climate change, habitat and being a good voter. And that will all be important wherever you go and whatever you do after [college]."

In addition to such everyday choices, Williams encouraged involvement in local environmental groups to allow activism beyond the Hill. One such local group Williams is a member of is the Nature Conservancy, which focuses on preserving endangered and rare habitats in the middle New York area. "I found it really interesting in part because so much of my life is at the college and I love [the college]...but I do find it really interesting to go out and work with a different group of people."

Two of the local areas that groups like the Nature Conservancy focus on preserving are the Rome Sand Plains and the Utica



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Williams, above, encourages active citizenship.

Marsh. The Rome Sand Plains are 16,000 acres in Oneida County of leftover sand from glacial shifts. The area contains many rare species that require protecting, and groups such as the Nature Conservancy work with local and state government to maintain sensitive habitats, allowing citizens to be involved in the governmental side of environmentalism. Every summer, a few Hamilton students work with Williams to help preserve the

see ***Green****, page 13*

Playing Tetris May Increase Cognitive Function

Research find increase in density of gray matter when adolescent girls play Tetris consistently

*from **Could**, page 12*

that part of the thicker gray matter was in a region of the brain near the top of the head.

This area, called the parietal lobe, is believed to be responsible for collecting and processing information from the senses.

For comparison purposes, the researchers also scanned the brains of 11 girls who had not been playing Tetris. They found no increase in the thickness of those girls' gray matter. This result suggested that certain parts of the game-playing girls' brains had indeed grown as a result of playing the video game Tetris.

Dr. Haier explains that when a person first starts playing Tetris, his or her brain function and activity increase, so there is a greater cerebral energy consumption (measured by the glucose metabolic rate of cells in the brain). As a Tetris player becomes more proficient at this game, his or her brain shows a reduced consumption of glucose. Glucose is the energy of brain cells. Using less glucose implies that less energy is necessary, meaning increased efficiency for that task.

Even playing Tetris a moderate amount, say, an hour a day for three months, can boost general cognitive functions such as reasoning, logic, critical thinking, language learning, data processing while increasing cerebral cortex thickness. The study indicates that brain structure is much more dynamic than had been previously thought.

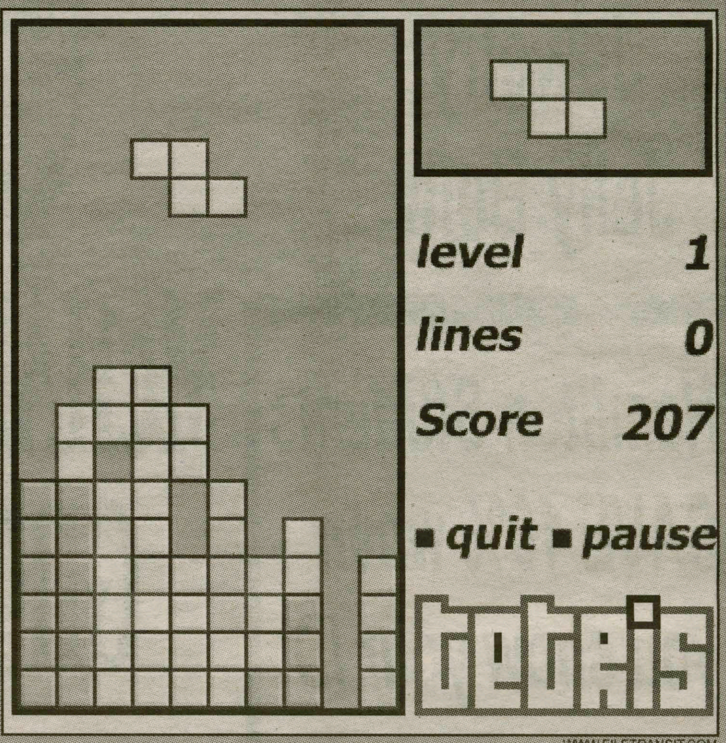
In order to prove their hypothesis, the researchers also did some real-time brain scans of the girls while they were playing Tetris. For those scans, they used a technique called Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI). The fMRI tracks how blood moves through the brain, and allows scientists to see which brain areas are being used the most, since these areas will require the most oxygen and therefore have the greatest blood flow.

These scans showed that in the brains of the girls who played Tetris, certain parts of the brain were indeed being used less. The scientists thought that the drop in activity of certain parts of the brain may be due to the brain actually working more efficiently than before. Those parts are no longer needed for the task.

It is interesting to note that the parts of the brain that increased in density over the course of the study are not the same parts of the brain that were thought to be more efficient, according to the three researchers. The human brain is not like a high-definition television—bigger is not always better. Therefore, interpreting the research results and understanding how the brain works are not easy, and the researchers have yet to determine whether the brain changes due to Tetris help a person learn new skills, have better memory, or improve critical thinking abilities.

When asked about the findings of the experiment, Professor of Psychology Doug Weldon said, "Although the areas of the brain that increased in size were usually not the ones that showed greater efficiency, it is noteworthy that two of the locations where overlap did occur were a frontal cortex site that has been associated with attention and a parietal lobe area that is involved in spatial processing. It will be interesting to see if the plasticity demonstrated in these girls is correlated with improved performance in other spatial tasks."

Although it is too early to draw any concrete conclusion, these results could have a significant impact on our understanding of the development of intelligence. Such knowledge could be used to help those who suffer from brain damage to regain function, and could also be applied to reversing the affects of aging, which involves a decrease in gray matter.



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Tetris has been a popular logic game since its creation in 1985.

Green Week Movie Promotes Eating Locally, Organically

by Ben Trachtman '12
Science & Technology Editor

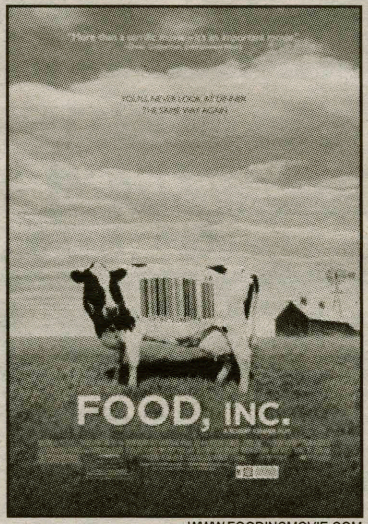
Wednesday's Green Week event was a public showing of the movie "Food, Inc." The movie, which was released in June, is a documentary that takes a critical view of the American corporate food industry. The standing-room-only showing drew about 40 students who packed into the Glen House.

"Food, Inc." chronicles the rise of food corporations in America, how food today is different from food 50 years ago, and what impact these changes have on both the environment and the health of consumers. Chickens are one example the movie uses to demonstrate how food has changed. Chickens today are twice the size of chickens in the 1960's and are slaughtered at half the age. They have also been bred to have more white meat, since consumers prefer that to dark meat.

The movie also notes that the entire food industry is almost entirely controlled by only a few massive corporations, and the biggest buyers from these corporations are other large restaurant businesses such as McDonald's.

Michael Pollan, one of the primary collaborators on the movie, even arranged a meeting with Secretary of Agriculture and Hamilton alumnus Tom Vilsack '72.

Food, Inc. is an eye-opening look into where food really comes from. Not only is locally grown and organic food healthier and significantly more eco-friendly, but it also helps support local farmers in an age where their profession is being replaced by giant corporations.



WWW.FOODINCMOVIE.COM

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Williams suggests students become involved in protecting local ecosystems, such as Utica Marsh (below).

Green Week Talk on Activism Held

*from **HEAG**, page 12*

habitat.

The Utica Marsh is also a habitat for many rare organisms, and a significant range of species, including about 300 species of trees and 180 species of birds. Williams explained that "soon after I came to Hamilton 25 years ago I started to work with a volunteer group on Utica Marsh. And our goals were twofold. One was to promote environmental education....and the second was to advise the state on how to manage Utica Marsh." To promote education, Williams, along with other members of the volunteer group, wrote a book on the diversity of species found in the marsh. They provided copies to classrooms throughout the area, and are currently working on digitizing the book, and possibly making a movie to make the information as accessible to children as possible.

Community groups like these are effective ways for citizens to be active, because they provide an intermediary between the general public and the government. Williams encouraged members of the Hamilton community to "choose something that is important to you that you want to contribute to. There are a lot of environmental organizations....I look for choosing ones that I think are effective." However, Williams understands that it may be difficult to become a part of such organizations while still on the Hill. "I think it's especially when you're beyond college...that's where you become active and you choose what it is to join, what it is to participate in as an active member of the community."

The HEAG Green Tip of The Week:

Don't drive across campus. There's nowhere to park and you waste a lot of gas stopping and starting, avoiding pedestrians and bikers. If you have to drive around town, "to prevent excess pollution (and to preserve others' positive moods), drive within the speed limit, [and] accelerate and brake gradually... Driving in a too-fast, herky-jerky way can lower gas mileage by 33 percent."

~Quote from the Sierra Club's "The Green Life Column," published August 11, 2009.

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PANDORUM •1:20•3:30-5:45-8:00▲10:10 DTS R

CLOUDY with a chance of MEAT BALLS IN DIGITAL 3D & DOLBY DIGITAL @ •12:00•2:10-4:20-6:30▲8:40 STADIUM SEATING | #1 MOVIE! PG IN 2D @ •1:00•3:10-5:20-7:30▲9:30

THE INFORMANT! •12:20•2:40-5:00-7:20▲9:40 R

9 •1:10•3:00-5:05-6:50▲8:50 PG-13

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Cross Country Tests Speed Against Top Teams

by Scott Bickard '11
Sports Writer

Things happen before a race. The smallest feelings of soreness multiply inside the runner's head. The heart pounds a little too fast. Workouts attempt to mimic the race experience, but everything changes in the 10 minutes before the gun.

"I'm terrified before a race," Dylan Thayer '13 said. "All I see around me are gangs of uniformed men, jumping up, doing sprints, and then it hits me: we're chasing something out there. Every place matters."

That statement rung too true for the men's cross country team last Friday at Oneonta's air field 6K XC course. The squad was looking to take out their frustration after getting upset by a sneaky Vassar pack two weeks ago. Unfortunately, they may have to store those feelings up for a couple more weeks after finishing two points off of second place Oneonta and into a third place tie with Brockport. It would have been a great week to test their national capabilities against Plattsburg, a group of men currently ranked in that prized fifth spot in the region, the last place of eligibility for a berth to National's.

"I think it was good to see what a top team runs like," Devon Lynch '11 said. "Now we know what we have to do."

Peter Kosgei '11 was also expecting some competition from Plattsburg's top guy, but finished with one of the strongest early season runs of his career. He placed first in a meet record time of 18:01. Translate that pace to an 8K and you get a personal record of 24:10. Four Plattsburg guys dispersed themselves between Kosgei and the next Hamilton runner to finish, Will Reid '10, who came across the finish line in eleventh place at 19:57. Lynch made it home safely in 20:13. James Grebey '12 had a tough second week run with a time of 20:36.

> *"We're chasing something out there. Every place matters."*
> **- Dylan Thayer '13 expresses the Continental Attitude.**

The women's team also just missed out on second place in their 4.5K run. On the positive side, Abby King '11 continued her breakout season and finished third out of the 69 runners in 17:02. Her teammate Meredith FitzPatrick '11 showed off her smooth running touch a couple seconds behind King for fourth place. FitzPatrick has not yet returned to her nationals-caliber self after an injury-filled summer, but her race last Friday shows she's close.

Coach Ellen Hull must be excited about the elite pack potential of FitzPatrick, King and Emily Potter '12, who finished twelfth. The three of them could generate special things for Coach Hull's suddenly seasoned squad. Rounding out the Hamilton scoring team were Maddy Gunter '11 and Rachel Cacket '13, both of whom finished in the top 20.

PHOTO BY JOHN HUBBARD
The cross country team works together in a strong meet.

Both teams are off this weekend. They'll use the free week to get in some tough runs in preparation for the most competitive meet a Hamilton team has ever run in, the Lehigh Invitational. The race will feature several Division I programs and some of the best runners in the country. Expect the most interesting race of Kosgei's cross country career, as he races the big boys on the grass for his toughest test to date.

Volleyball Puts Their Budding Young Starts on Home Display

by Riley Smith '12
Sports Writer

The rivalry between two of the region's best volleyball teams lived up to its hype: While the Utica College Pioneers came out early taking the first two sets 25-19 and 25-17, the Continentals powered back into their volleyball match by securing the third set 25-10. The Continentals were unable to secure the lead in the fourth set, however they kept the Utica Pioneers on their toes and the fans on the edge of their seats. Twice towards the end of the fourth set, the Continentals challenged Utica by pulling within a single point making the score 22-21 and then ultimately 24-23 before Utica snatched the final point, defeating the young, yet motivated Hamilton Continentals in their home match on September 16.

While the volleyball team could be considered a fairly young team, the first-years have proved their worth and brought both talent and energy to the Continental roster. Hamilton competed last weekend in the SUNY Plattsburgh Cardinal Classic where they gained valuable experience against several highly ranked teams, including Plattsburgh, Buffalo State, and St. Lawrence.

Despite a disappointing finish in the Classic, Amanda Cohen '13 was named to the all-tournament team, an impressive accomplishment for a first-year player. Another team newcomer to keep an eye out for is Ally Marella '13, who has consistently proven herself a force to be reckoned with, contributing impressive assists, blocks, and kills every match without fail.

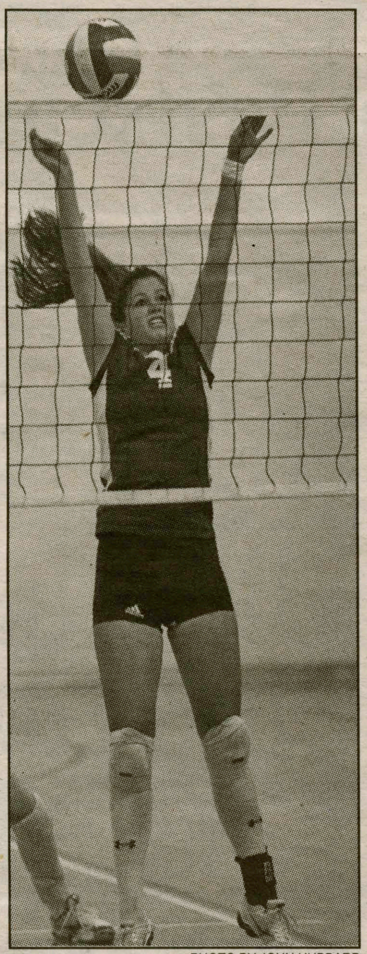
PHOTO BY JOHN HUBBARD
Captain Rachel Irizarry '12 helps set up her teammate.

Captain Rachel Irizarry '12 has been a lock-down defender, coming out of the Utica game with 19 digs and delivering 15 digs the following weekend against Plattsburgh. In the second game of the Plattsburgh classic against Buffalo State, Cohen recorded a season high 16 kills and Cecelie Pikus '13 contributed 13 assists and three aces. Alyssa Hopper '13 came alive, also contributing 13 assists to the offensive game. Defensively, Martella blocked shots and Irizarry posted up 10 digs. Regardless, the Buffalo State Bengals defeated the Continentals in a hard fought match that ended after a fifth set.

Irizarry explained, "The game against Buffalo State was probably the best we've played all year. The passing game was where it needed to be and the assists and serves were right on. It is hard to lose a close match like that, but we're focusing on the present and the fact that as a team we're improving every game."

Following their battle against the Bengals, the Continentals took on the tournament champs, St. Lawrence University. Hamilton fell behind at the start and despite a valiant comeback in the third set, they were unable to capitalize and fell short, losing the third set 27-25.

One of the team's short-term goals is a focus on consistency.

"It is hard to come out and play one of the best games of the year [Buffalo State] and then struggle as a team in the next game against St. Lawrence," explained Irizarry.

Despite the lack of wins on the scoreboard, the team has been improving and morale is where it needs to be. The Continentals are making some adjustments with their systems and rotations that will elevate their game to the next level. Come out and support the volleyball team in the upcoming home tournament (Sept. 25-26) in the Scott Field House. The tournament will kick off with Hamilton College vs. University of Rochester at 4:00 p.m. on Sept. 25.

We Have a Winner

from Men's Tennis, page 16

doubles "A" title after an 8-1 win against Mike Moreno '11 and Petit in another all-Hamilton final. Both doubles teams played high-profile tennis and had a chance to win the game.

According to McKee, "[the Continentals doubles squads were] totally dominant in the "A" bracket. Our doubles teams got through their early round matches fairly easily and then met each other for an all-Hamilton "A" bracket doubles final. We spend a lot of time on doubles in our practices and it is exciting to see our hard work come to fruition as it did in this tournament."

McKee summed up the Continental's steller performances with immense pride and optimism, remarking that "Jordan Petit's calm demeanor and impressive shot-making paved the way for him to get to the finals of the 'B' bracket, where he came up against a strong opponent from St. Lawrence. They played a very close, hard-fought match, with Petit losing in a close tiebreaker. Jordan sometimes flies under the radar because of his unassuming nature, but his opponents learn very quickly what a hard fighter and strong player he is."

"The most impressive aspect of Coby's play throughout the weekend was his strategic shot making," added the team's coach. "Coby was able to change his game plan depending on the style and strengths of his opponent better than I've ever seen him do it. He played with mature court-smarts and made his opponents very uncomfortable. Coby is really growing into a great player for us."

The Continentals are aiming to bring the program back to the success it had in the 90's, with the potential to be even better, and McKee expresses this hope best saying, "I couldn't have been prouder or happier with how our guys played this weekend. We were methodical in our shot making and really thought through how to play against each and every opponent."

"Also, we've been spending a great deal of time this fall on conditioning. I think it really showed this weekend. A few of the guys had to play as many as four matches on Saturday and then three more on Sunday, but they never got overly fatigued. They were able to keep up their energy and poise throughout the entire tournament. I really felt we were impressive this weekend, but when the other coaches told me how impressed they were with our guys, then I knew we were doing well."

On a team with no seniors, the young players are beginning to flourish and develop. They are learning on the spot while winning their matches, thus preparing themselves for more talented opponents down the road. Any experience they can gain now will have great utility when the spring season comes and the team will have to face a tougher NESCAC schedule. The team added NESCAC schools for the first time in 2007 and will have to play at least seven of them during April. The chances to reach the NESCAC championship in early May appear to be good if the team can keep up its excellent form.

A Hamilton College Student Publication, Clinton, NY Volume L Number 4

SPECTATOR SPORTS

September 24, 2009

Sports on the Hill...

The men's soccer team lost at home against Nazareth College. They led at half time after Tom Goulder '12 scored after 35 minutes. Within 23 minutes, Nazareth turned the game to win 2-1. Four days earlier the team had won 3-0 at home against SUNY Oswego. Jon Sanford '11, Hennie Bosman '13 and Jesse Arroyave '11 scored for the Continentals.

The swimming team participated in the Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk in Utica on Sept. 12. 23 swimmers collected around $700 for the association.

NCAA president **Myles Brand** died at age 67. He visited Hamilton two years ago and gave a speech about combining athletic performance with taking advantage of college education. He was the first college president to lead the NCAA and was famous for firing Bob Knight at Indiana University. He will be missed.

Hamilton Cleans up at SLU Tourney

Jonathan Franzel '13 Excels in First Collegiate Match

by Daniel Greenberg '12 and Daniel Hagemeier '11
Sports Editors

Sunday rolled around and while most students were catching up on work or were curing their hangover from Saturday night, the men's tennis team started the season in dominant fashion. Five of the six semifinal singles matches at the St. Lawrence University Fall Classic featured a Continental. The team captured three of the four titles they participated in. This weekend clearly was not just another ordinary tournament, but a statement for all the teams to come: Hamilton tennis is on the rise again.

Four Hamilton players reached the finals in the "A," "B" and "C" singles brackets, pulling away with wins in two of them. Jonathan Franzel '13 won the "A" Bracket while Coby Berman '12 won the "C" Bracket. Additonally, Jordan Petit '13 finished second in the "B" Bracket. If that wasn't enough of a statement, all four players have limited collegiate experience. The team also enjoyed an all-Continental final in the doubles "A" bracket to help top off this memorable performance.

The singles top level "A" bracket featured two Continentals in the finals. Drew Libin '12 and Jonathan Franzel, who have taken over as the first and second flight players on the team despite their ages and lack of game experience.

Coach Josh McKee explains, "They both played exceptionally well to get there and then had an extremely competitive finals match, with Franzel taking the title by only a couple of points. Their play throughout the entire tournament was truly impressive. It is even more impressive when you remember that Drew is a sophomore and Jon is a first-year player. With them at the front, men's tennis at Hamilton has an exceptionally bright future."

Maybe the most exciting part of this youth movement is that Franzel did not even drop a set throughout the bracket, with his hardest victory coming against his teammate and doubles partner Libin in the finals. It was a hard fought 7-6 (7), 7-5 victory to give him the title. Libin showed determination and grit in his way to the finals as well. After dropping his first set in the semifinals to a player of the University of Rochester, he bounced back to win the next two sets for the victory, winning the third in a dramatic, super-tiebreaker fashion 10-7.

What is most telling about these rising young stars is that they were also able to work well together in the doubles pairings. Franzel and Libin captured the

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PHOTO BY JOHN HUBBARD

Jonathan Franzel '13 went undefeated with two wins.

Women's Soccer Strikers in Postseason Form

by Daniel Hagemeier '11
Sports Editor

After pulling off an impressive 4-0 win at home in the season opener against Massachusetts Liberal Arts College, the road for the women's soccer team to the NCAA tournament has finally started to heat up. The team is getting into the meat of its season and key wins have become a little tougher to come by. Coach Gilligan's team managed to edge SUNY Oswego 3-2 on Sept. 12, and fell victim in two nailbiters to SUNY Cortland (0-1) and in overtime to Nazareth College (1-2).

"The last two games were even, either team could have won. Both our opponents are very competitive. Nazareth even made it to the NCAA tournament last year," explained Gilligan. "We were playing well, we were putting in 100% effort, but we left the field as the losing team. It was a fluky goal that lost us the game against Nazareth."

To prevent this from happening again, the team will put emphasis on offensive plays in practice this week.

Coach Gilligan reiterated this notion when she said, "We need to produce more offensive plays; our midfielders need to play more offensively. I want them to score, not just assist with goals."

One of the difficulties the team has had to overcome during the start of the season is injuries.

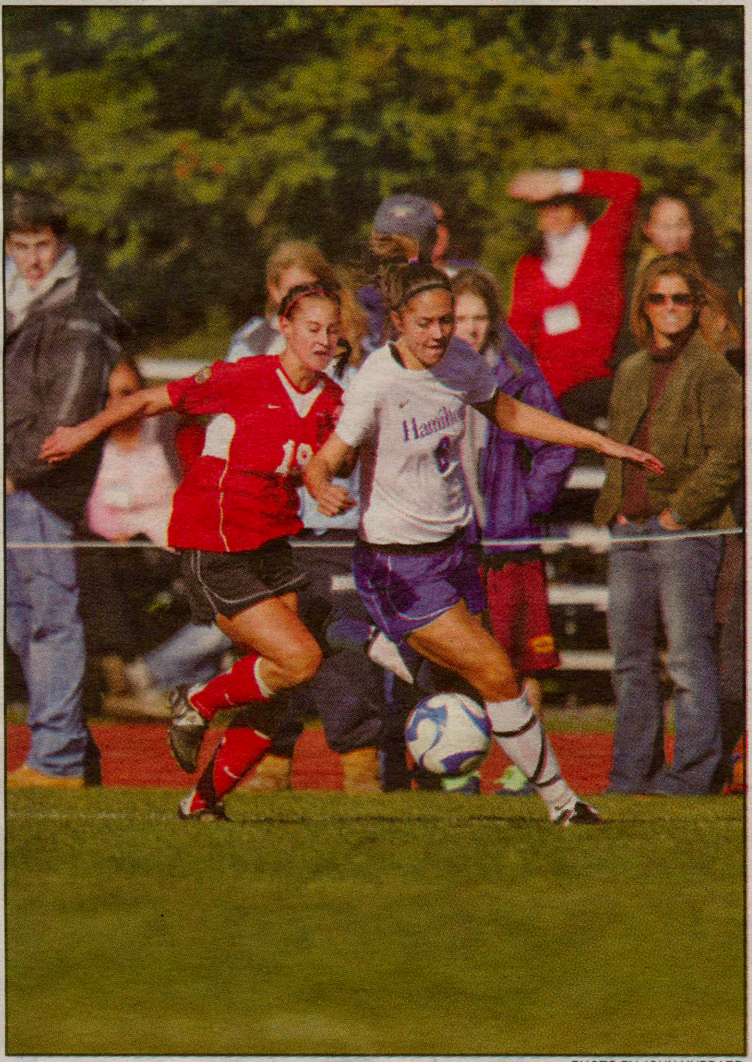

PHOTO BY JOHN HUBBARD

Anne Graveley '11 has scored half of Hamilton's goals.

Several players have not been able to go out at 100 precent and Coach Gilligan has had to improvise and piece together her starting lineup as a result.

"But I feel great about this team, it works harder than any other team I coached here at Hamilton. The morale is good," she said.

The coach hopes the last two games prepared the team for the difficult conference games ahead. The conference is very competitive and Gilligan sees no push-overs. This weekend the Continentals will face RPI and Vassar before having four straight home games.

Gilligan believes that "both are good teams and we will have tough games. It is always difficult to play RPI, but we should be able to beat them. We won our last game against them at home 4-0. We played 2-2 against Vassar even though we dominated the game. This game ultimately knocked us out of the Liberty League tournament. Both are solid teams."

In order to win the upcoming matches and get a shot at redemption against Vassar, the team will continue to rely on forwards Anne Graveley '11, who has scored four of the Continentals eight goals this season, and Alex Rimmer '12, who contributed two goals. The team is playing high level soccer and can compete with the best teams in the division. Gilligan is constantly rotating the personnel on the field, and regularly subbing players in and out.

Coach Gilligan said, "The team is currently sixteen players deep. I want to have as many players involved as possible to produce a high level of intensity and effort. Everybody needs to be part of the team and contribute."

Accordingly, the team will continue giving every player substantial playing time, including both goal keepers, who usually switch at half time. Gilligan feels more secure this way in case one of the goalies gets injured.

Overall, the outlook for the next games seem promising for the Continentals. Barring any setbacks from injuries, the team should be able to keep up the high playing level and eventually will start scoring again. It seems to be only a matter of time before the team will build a new winning streak.

Did you know...

...that the soccer team under Coach Gilligan has progressed to the post-season nine times in the last ten years?

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Go Hamilton!